

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## SYRIA THREATENS NEW WAR OF ATTRITION By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Oct. 8 (JTA) -- Syria's Defense Minister, Mustafa Tlass, has threatened a new war of attrition against Israel. He made the threat last night during a speech to Syrian units of the Arab peace-keeping force in Lebanon. He told the soldiers to be prepared for the battle against Israel.

There was no official reaction in Israel although some sources warned the Syrians that they were "playing with fire." Political observers noted that Tlass spoke on the eve of President Hafez Assad's trip to Moscow. Syria has recently received large shipments of aircraft and anti-aircraft missile batteries from the Soviet Union.

They are expected to be supplied soon with Soviet MiG-25s, a highly sophisticated combat plane for which there is no Western counterpart in the region. On the other hand, Israeli circles noted Syrian ground forces are spread thin because more than 30,000 of their troops are stationed in Lebanon.

Israel is nevertheless concerned by the build-up of air strength and anti-aircraft defenses in Syria. A pilotless Israeli plane shot down over Syria was on a photo reconnaissance mission to determine the size and nature of the Syrian escalation. Its loss was announced yesterday by Air Force Commander Gen. David Ivri. The Syrians claimed that the remote-controlled plane was in fact an Israeli fighter that was downed in an air battle. They later revised their story to conform with the facts. (See separate story)

## SYRIANS DOWN PILOTLESS ISRAELI PLANE

TEL AVIV, Oct. 8 (JTA) -- A pilotless Israeli plane disappeared while on a photo reconnaissance mission over Syria and is presumed to have been shot down. Gen. David Ivri, Commander of the Israel Air Force, announced yesterday. He identified the aircraft as an American-made subsonic drone of the Firebee type which has been employed in intelligence gathering since before the Yom Kippur War.

Ivri said the drone was investigating reports of a major escalation of Syrian air strength and anti-aircraft defenses when contact was lost some 25 miles inside Syria, above the site of the Syrian air base at Homs. He said its exact fate was not known but it was probably downed by the Syrians. The drone was flying alone. There was no indication when the reported loss occurred.

Meanwhile, the right-wing Phalangist radio in Beirut reported yesterday that the Syrians have installed radar equipment along the Lebanese coast to augment their early warning system against Israeli air or naval attacks.

## CABINET APPROVES 'IN PRINCIPLE' SINAI PEACE MONITORING PLAN By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Oct. 8 (JTA) -- The Cabinet yesterday approved "in principle" the Sinai peace-monitoring plan worked out in Washington

last month but Israel will continue to press the United States to establish a multi-national force to ensure treaty compliance during its phased withdrawal from the peninsula.

Cabinet Secretary Arye Naor announced that decision after yesterday's session and said that Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan was "authorized" to convey to the U.S. Israel's proposed "amendments and clarifications."

## Multi-National Force A Must

No details were given. It was learned, however, that Israel will inform the U.S. that it will not complete its withdrawal from Sinai by the 1982 deadline unless a multi-national force is established as envisioned by the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty. Israel will also insist that such a force be protected by a contractual agreement which would preclude any unilateral decision to withdraw it. The "amendments and clarifications" reportedly consist of 10 points -- six of them substantive and four changes in the wording of the original proposal.

The Sinai monitoring plan was agreed to by Dayan and Defense Minister Ezer Weizman at a series of tripartite meetings with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and Egyptian Defense Minister Kamal Hassan Ali in Washington. It provides for coordinated but separate Israeli and Egyptian patrols in the Sinai buffer zone and electronic and aerial surveillance by American civilian teams already in Sinai.

Israel's approval of the plan was delayed because of serious reservations expressed by several ministers who insisted that the U.S. must create a multi-national force. The Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee unanimously rejected the plan last week. Dayan defended it as an interim arrangement pending the establishment of a "serious force that could undertake the heavy peace-keeping work."

Israel is also expected to ask the U.S. to increase the size of its observer force in Sinai beyond the 200 civilians authorized by Congress. There are presently 170 Americans staffing the advance warning stations in Sinai. Israel was said to agree to their being assisted by United Nations personnel on condition that neither Israel nor Egypt would have any dealings with the latter or be authorized to demand their withdrawal. Only the Security Council would have that authority.

## Deadlock in Sinai Oil Talks

The Cabinet also discussed the deadlock in the Sinai oil talks between Energy Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and his Egyptian counterpart. No agreement has been reached until now on the supply of Sinai oil to Israel, and at what price after the oil fields are returned to Egypt.

Israel reportedly will seek American mediation on this issue. Among other things, it wants to know what President Carter meant when he referred to the "international price" in his letter on oil supply that was appended to the Camp David agreements.

## BLACK LEADER WITHDRAWS INVITATION TO ARAFAT TO VISIT THE U.S.

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Oct. 8 (JTA) -- Walter Fauntroy, one of the prime movers among American Black leaders toward inducing the U.S. government

to deal with the Palestine Liberation Organization has announced that he has withdrawn his invitation to PLO chief Yasser Arafat to visit the U.S. and has also cancelled a series of 10 "educational forums" on the Middle East and the Palestinian question scheduled by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC).

Fauntroy, who is chairman of the SCLC Board and the District of Columbia's delegate to the House of Representatives, and Rev. Joseph Lowery, president of the SCLC, had both met with Arafat in Beirut last month and indicated that they would receive from Arafat a promise that the PLO will cease its terrorist activities. Fauntroy's announcement yesterday followed a six-point message to the SCLC from Arafat indicating that the PLO would observe a cease-fire in south Lebanon but would engage in renewed hostilities against Israel.

The PLO statement was issued after Rev. Jesse Jackson left Beirut last Friday after an 11-day five-nation Mideast tour which included Israel, Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. Before leaving Beirut, Jackson, who is the head of Operation PUSH, claimed that the PLO had "seized the initiative" by declaring a cease-fire in south Lebanon. The declaration, however, made no mention of ending terrorist activity against Israel.

#### Arafat's Declaration Termed Inadequate

Fauntroy said Arafat's cease-fire declaration was inadequate and that it does not guarantee an end to terrorism in Israel or on the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The Black leader said on a local radio interview that "I intend to withhold any invitation to Mr. Arafat until there is some clear indication that he is prepared to at least respond to our initial request to a moratorium on violence everywhere, including inside the nation of Israel."

Fauntroy also said the SCLC would not launch its education forums on the Mideast until "we get a clearer understanding of what their (PLO) intentions are in respect to the moratorium." Regarding the Lebanon cease-fire, he added, "That for me is not adequate. It has to be a unilateral and across-the-board moratorium including acts of violence inside Israel." There was no immediate comment from Lowery.

Last Friday, the State Department expressed skepticism over the Lebanon cease-fire which it termed "shaky" but "holding." The cease-fire was, in fact, in effect before Arafat's message to Fauntroy saying the PLO would observe it. Fauntroy's statement followed an exchange of cables between the SCLC in Atlanta and Arafat. Fauntroy considered Arafat's first message inadequate and cabled for "clarification." The reply from the PLO leader that arrived last Friday indicated to Fauntroy that Israel was not included in the promised cease-fire.

Meanwhile, in Amman, Abdul-Jawad Saleh, a member of the PLO executive committee, said over the weekend that the PLO rejected proposals by Jackson calling for the freezing of its violence against Israel, recognition of Israel and joining the Camp David accords.

#### Role Of The White House

In a related development, the White House has confirmed that President Carter sought to have Premier Menachem Begin of Israel reverse his decision not to meet with Jackson during his visit to Israel. But the White House emphasized that Carter never engaged in discussion with Israel's Ambassador Ephraim Evron about this. At

least one news report said Carter's request had been relayed to Evron. The Israel Embassy declined to comment.

Presidential News Secretary Jody Powell said late last week that the matter of whether Begin should meet with Jackson was discussed at the White House and with persons outside the Administration. He said the discussion was based entirely on the concern of Administration officials whether Begin's refusal to meet Jackson might damage Israel's relations with Americans.

Powell emphasized that Jackson's Mideast trip was in no way related to the Administration and indicated that at least one Congressman expressed concern over the impact of Begin's decision on Americans and Israel and that Carter agreed it was important to talk with Israelis about this.

The Congressman was not identified but it was indicated that it was a Senator closely identified with Mideast affairs. Jackson, himself, said prior to leaving Beirut that he would report to Carter about his trip and would urge the President to convene a Mideast peace conference that included Palestinians.

#### MODAI WARNS ISRAEL MAY BE HEADING FOR A SERIOUS RECESSION

By Yitzhak Shargil and Gil Sedan

TEL AVIV, Oct. 8 (JTA) — Yitzhak Modai, Minister of Energy and Infrastructure, warned last night that Israel may be heading for a serious recession. He said that the first signs of a slowdown in the economy are already visible in several branches of the economy.

Modai, who was speaking at the opening of an exhibition, "Energy '80," designed to show methods of saving energy in the construction industry, said the Tel Aviv exhibition is displaying devices that can cut energy use by 10-15 percent.

The Energy Minister also warned that the price of oil will increase substantially over the next few months because of a 14 percent rise in the spot market in Amsterdam.

The fear of a recession is playing a major factor in Israel's negotiations with the American firms constructing two new airfields in the Negev. Although the Americans can bring in foreign workers, Israel wants a clause that Israeli unemployed will receive preference.

The Defense Ministry has promised Histadrut that the American firms will have to hire more Israelis if there is a recession. However, the Ministry admits the U.S. has the right to choose the contractors and that the American contractors will be using foreign workers as well as equipment purchased abroad.

#### Israeli Concession To U.S. Rapped

Gad Yaacobi, chairman of the Knesset Finance Committee, accused the Defense Ministry yesterday of surrendering to American pressure when it agreed that equipment for the construction of the two American-financed airfields in the Negev would be transported to Israel exclusively by American carriers. U.S. cargo preference laws require that assistance cargoes be shipped in American-flag vessels.

But Yaacobi, who was Minister of Transport in the previous Labor-led government, charged that the arrangement was a "scandal." He urged Defense Minister Ezer Weizman to try to have the agreement changed so that Israeli shipping companies can bid for the freight.

Meanwhile, Israeli managers appear to be having no trouble landing jobs for constructing the airfields. Many Israelis, who directed large-scale

projects in Africa, Asia or Latin America have been hired as deputy directors for various projects in connection with the airfields. Other Israeli construction officials have gone to the United States to seek jobs on the projects. The two airfields, at Ovda and Rimón, are to be completed by 1982 when Israel abandons its existing airfields in Sinai.

#### AMERICAN RABBI TO LAUNCH CAMPAIGN FOR HEBREW IN THE USSR By Gil Sedán

JERUSALEM, Oct. 8 (JTA) -- The Rabbinical Council of America (Orthodox), will soon launch a campaign to allow the teaching of Hebrew in the Soviet Union, Rabbi Sholem Kowalsky, vice president of the Council, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. Kowalsky, in Jerusalem for Succoth, had just spent two weeks in the USSR, where he preached in synagogues during the High Holy Days.

"They want Jewish books, they are hungry for books," he said. According to Kowalsky, Soviet Jews -- particularly the younger generation -- showed remarkable knowledge of events in Israel, but were upset about their inability to study Hebrew properly.

"All languages known to man are permitted to be taught in the USSR except Hebrew," Kowalsky said. He called on the Soviet authorities to rectify the situation. He said special efforts would be made in that direction in the near future. This was one of the subjects he raised here in a meeting with Interior Minister Yosef Burg. He is scheduled to meet Premier Menachem Begin later this week.

#### Culmination Of Years Of Work

Kowalsky went to the Soviet Union with his wife Shulamit. It was his first visit there, culminating years of work on behalf of Soviet Jewry. "I felt that because of the High Holidays this was the most appropriate time to meet Russian Jews." Indeed, he found out that thousands of Jews came to the synagogues as these were the only places where they could assemble legally as Jews.

During the High Holy Days, the rabbi preached in three synagogues. On Rosh Hashanah he spoke in Moscow and the week after in Riga. On Yom Kippur, he officiated in Leningrad, the first time in 50 years that a foreign rabbi was allowed to speak in the Leningrad synagogue, Kowalsky said. In Moscow he was asked to speak by Chief Rabbi Yaacov Fishman who is presently hospitalized.

Thousands of Jews attended the services, Kowalsky said, and heard his call for universal peace and a plea for their return to their ancient faith. "Their enthusiastic response was overwhelming," he said. "They shed tears of joy upon hearing the words 'We are one people' and in unison they responded 'amen.'"

#### Thousands Of Young Jews In Synagogues

Kowalsky said he was surprised to observe thousands of young people who emerged in each city at the synagogues. "They surrounded the synagogues, praying, singing and dancing to proclaim to all the world to see their bond to their faith," he said. "It was more a meeting of Jewish national identification than a religious one. They have no way of identifying other than in this fashion."

Kowalsky said many Soviet Jews were returning to the study and observance of Torah and mitzvot. "People besieged me with halachic

questions," he said.

His wife noted that despite their strong Jewish consciousness, many Jews preferred the U.S. to Israel because they felt American Jewry was doing more on their behalf. She said that many Jews, particularly among the older generation, were affected by the strong anti-Israel propaganda. The American rabbi said he was treated "courteously and correctly" by the Soviet authorities.

#### GUSH DEMANDS APPEAR TO HAVE SPLIT THE NRP LEADERSHIP By Gil Sedán

JERUSALEM, Oct. 8 (JTA) -- New demands by the Gush Eimunim for the large-scale seizure of privately owned Arab land on the West Bank to make room for massive Jewish settlement there are expected to be taken up at a special Cabinet meeting later this week. But the issue appears to have created a split in the leadership of the National Religious Party, the principal supporter of the Gush Eimunim in the government.

Interior Minister Yosef Burg of the NRP said on a radio interview that he did not necessarily see eye-to-eye with his colleagues, Education Minister Zevulun Hammer and party Whip Yehuda Ben-Meir, who favor land expropriations. Hammer and Ben-Meir met with Premier Menachem Begin last week-end to press the latest Gush demands and to request a special Cabinet meeting.

Ben-Meir said later that the Premier "showed great sympathy for the subject. We have grounds to believe and hope that the government will take the necessary steps to ensure the expansion of seven settlements which otherwise will not be able to exist." Another NRP source said that Hammer and Ben-Meir did not seek to persuade Begin because "they knew beforehand that he was convinced."

But Burg said that Hammer and Ben-Meir did not speak on behalf of the NRP when they met with Begin over the Gush demands. He said that on this "matter of principle" he would vote his conscience and observed that special efforts should be made not to expropriate private land.

Burg also criticized the Gush for seizing land beyond the perimeters of their settlements in defiance of government restrictions. "I think that whatever is illegal is, indeed, illegal even if it is done out of good intentions," he said. He was apparently referring to the latest such incident. Last Thursday, members of the Tekoa settlement in the Judea district broke out of their compound and erected tents, prefabricated huts and a sucah on adjacent land. They withdrew when a military detachment arrived on the scene with orders from the Military Governor to remove them.

Yesterday, the Gush secretariate demanded the immediate seizure of 50,000 acres of Arab-owned land in the Judea and Samaria regions of the West Bank. They said the issue was not just the seven existing settlements they want expanded but to "fill a vacuum in the territories that would become a Palestinian state unless it was filled by Jews."

Meanwhile, Defense Minister Ezer Weizman who was believed to be opposed to land expropriations, reportedly told members of the Gush settlement of Ofra Friday that he would support the seizures when the matter comes before the Cabinet. Sources close to the Defense Minister said that while he prefers to have settlements established on government-owned land, he recognized the expansion needs of seven existing Gush settlements. Rabbi Moshe Levinger, leader of the Gush, criticized the government for "talking a lot but doing little" on the settlement issue.

## **AUTHORITY ON GENOCIDE SAYS THE HOLOCAUST WAS WARNING THAT SOCIETY CAN DESTROY ITS OWN CHILDREN**

ARLINGTON Va., Oct. 8 (JTA) -- One of the nation's leading authorities on genocide said today that the Nazi death camps have led to a world society which "will not raise a finger to halt" a Holocaust. Dr. Henry Feingold, professor of history at the Graduate Center of New York's City University and Baruch College, told 200 social scientists assembled at the Hospitality House here to heed the Holocaust as "a last desperate warning that a world which can consume its own children is out of control."

Feingold was the keynote speaker at the two-day National Conference on Teaching About Genocide and the Nazi Holocaust in Secondary Schools sponsored by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith's Center for Studies on the Holocaust in cooperation with the National Council for Social Studies.

In welcoming remarks, Maxwell E. Greenberg, ADL national chairman, said the conference "marks the coming of age of Holocaust education in America's schools." He called such education "a legal, ethical and educational imperative ... in a world where cross-burnings and swastika paintings more often than not turn out to be the work of teenagers."

### **Two Major Studies**

The conference also featured reports on two major studies: a survey of secondary school history texts by Dr. Glenn Fote, assistant professor of secondary education at the University of Arizona, which found that not a single textbook in current use by high schools in the U.S. adequately covers the subject of the Holocaust; and a poll of Christian clergy conducted by Dr. Robert Wunthrow, director of the Program in Science and Human Affairs of the Sociology Department, Princeton University, which revealed a widespread belief that a Holocaust is "an ongoing threat to human society" and that Christians may be marked as potential victims.

The 200 participants -- educators, administrators, sociologists and human relations specialists from every section of the country -- also reviewed problems in developing instruction programs since a previous conference on the Holocaust in 1977, and participated in workshops on new programs, materials, teaching and training methods.

In addition, there were showings of films, film slides and other audio visual material, displays of print, art and graphic materials, and an exhibit of German documents relating to the Holocaust.

### **Holocaust Was Extension Of Industrial System**

In his address, Feingold said that the Nazi slaughter of 6 million Jews presented the world with "an alternate solution to the age old problem of living together in a society though we are different." The final solution, he said, "was an extension of the industrial system, the hallmark of European civilization which permitted it to dominate the world in previous centuries."

Feingold called the Holocaust "unique" because in applying the most modern techniques "to grind the Jews into ashes, it in fact murdered the most representative of its own children, the most universalistic of universalists; the most European of Europeans, the most Jewish of Jews."

Continuing, he said: "It was in fact an act

of social cannibalism on an unprecedented scale. Had the Nazi death machine been allowed to continue, entire sections of Europe, especially in the East, would have been depopulated. Europe would literally have consumed itself in flame. The Jews were merely the first and most representative to go up the chimneys of Auschwitz. There were others to follow."

### **POPE WARMLY GREETES EVRON**

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Oct. 8 (JTA) -- Pope John Paul II warmly greeted Israel's Ambassador to the U.S., Ephraim Evron, at a reception for the Washington diplomatic corps held at the residence of the Apostolic Delegate in the U.S., Jean Jadot, here Saturday night. Evron was one of the few among approximately 120 chiefs of missions of countries represented in Washington with whom the Pontiff stopped to chat on the receiving line.

As they shook hands in the conventional manner, the Pope grasped Evron's hand in both of his and told the Israeli envoy about his warm feelings "for your people," it was reported later by sources present at the reception. The Pope also said he was "familiar" with the Jewish people since his boyhood in Poland and that he wishes Israel all the best and for it to live in peace, the sources said. Evron responded with thanks to the Pope on behalf of the people and government of Israel for his "kind words."

BUENOS AIRES (JTA) -- The proposal of several Latin American countries to recognize the Palestine Liberation Organization was condemned by Gregorio Faigon, president of the Latin American Jewish Congress. Faigon deplored the fact that some of those countries "had ceded to external pressure because certain factors appeared on the surface to be favorable to their interests."

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- Eighteen high school youths from Bir Zeit were detained for questioning Sunday after Israeli forces broke up a demonstration in that West Bank college town. The youngsters set up roadblocks and stoned Israeli military and police vehicles to protest the forced transfer of other local students to different schools. The Military Government confirmed that a number of students were transferred for allegedly inciting disorder.

OTTAWA (JTA) -- Yeshayahu Anug, the new Israeli Ambassador here, has presented his credentials to the Governor General of Canada, Edward Schreyer. The 55-year-old envoy was previously director of the information division in Israel's Foreign Ministry. He replaces Ambassador Mordechai Shalev.

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- The Knesset Finance Committee Sunday approved an initial sum of IL 50 million in compensation to Israeli families that have already left Sinai in the evacuation required by the terms of the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty. The total cost of evacuating 1500 families from Yamit, Ophira and the various agricultural settlements during the next 2 1/2 years is estimated at IL 4 billion. Committee members were told that each family will receive IL 2-3 million. The amount of compensation is based on three criteria: length of residency, size of family and size of their housing.

BUCHAREST (JTA) -- An Israeli rabbi, Dr. Karl Jolles, was installed last week as rabbi of the city of Cluj and another dozen smaller Rumanian Jewish communities.