

## LINOWITZ OPTIMISTIC ABOUT PROGRESS IN AUTONOMY TALKS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 30 (JTA) — U.S. Special Ambassador Sol Linowitz emerged from a private meeting with Premier Menachem Begin this morning exuding optimism over the prospects for success in the autonomy negotiations. "I had a very rewarding and very thorough conversation with the Premier" and "I believe that as a result of this discussion, we can look forward to progress," the American envoy said. "Now we are embarked on a course that we both feel will lead to the successful result we have been searching for," he told reporters.

Linowitz reportedly raised with Begin the same "new American ideas" that he presented to President Anwar Sadat in Cairo last weekend aimed at breaking the Israeli-Egyptian deadlock on the autonomy talks. There has been no hint as to what these ideas consist of but Linowitz said today that they "offered some promising approaches to the negotiations."

### Report PLO May Join Autonomy Talks

In another development, Mayor Rashid A-Shawa of Gaza told Kol Israel Radio today that the Palestine Liberation Organization may enter the autonomy negotiations if Israel recognized Palestinian rights. A-Shawa also said that he intends to meet with Linowitz and that when he informed PLO leaders of this they did not object. A-Shawa is the only mayor from the administered territories who has agreed to meet with the American diplomat who is President Carter's personal representative in the autonomy negotiations. Their meeting was set for later today.

All the others, including Mayor Elias Freij of Bethlehem, regarded as the most moderate, have refused to see Linowitz because, they say, they totally reject the autonomy scheme.

A-Shawa's report that the PLO might join the talks under certain conditions took on some significance in view of the reported new American ideas and the fact that the next round of autonomy negotiations will be held tomorrow and Friday in Herzliya. The Gaza Mayor just returned from a visit to several Arab countries during which he met with PLO chief Yasir Arafat. He stressed that the PLO's condition that Israel recognize Palestinian rights means that the autonomy plan "will definitely be self-determination and the establishment of our sovereign Palestine state."

He said he was not breaking ranks with the other Arab mayors. "It's a difference in tactics, perhaps. They refuse what I am refusing and they accept what I accept," he said. A-Shawa rejected the idea of implementing autonomy in the Gaza Strip before it is applied to the West Bank.

That proposal, by Sadat, was coolly received by the Israelis. Begin has stressed that even if Israel agreed to the idea, it would be exercised only after a general agreement on autonomy is reached. A-Shawa said "We insist on linking Gaza with the West Bank. Anything that happens in Gaza must happen simultaneously on the West Bank," he said.

## SYRIAN MILITARY BUILDUP IN LEBANON

TEL AVIV, Jan. 30 (JTA) — Defense Minister Ezer Weizman told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee today that Israel was closely watching the Syrian military buildup in Lebanon. But he stressed that Israel was not making any moves that might increase the tension there.

As part of the buildup it has been learned here that units of the Palestine Liberation Army, the military arm of the Palestine Liberation Organization, has taken over the policing of the Lebanese coastline between Beirut and Sidon as the Syrian troops withdrew to other areas. The PLO units are equipped with tanks and artillery. This area is outside the zone covered by the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon.

Maj. Saad Haddad, head of the Christian militia in south Lebanon, said today he fears this new development will increase tension.

## WEIZMAN PRAISES EGYPT FOR THE WAY IT IS CARRYING OUT NORMALIZATION

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 30 (JTA) — Defense Minister Ezer Weizman praised Egypt for the way it is carrying out its part of the normalization process with Israel. Weizman, who the Cabinet put in charge of the normalization machinery, told the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee yesterday that the Egyptians were sincere about implementing normalization.

He said his function was to create "the contractual basis" for normalization and that once this stage is completed, the Foreign Ministry will take charge of the process itself. He explained that President Anwar Sadat wanted the process to move swiftly and be completed by March 15. Sadat prefers this to a step-by-step process that would draw attacks from the Arab rejectionists each time a stage was implemented. He said Israeli and Egyptian ministers will exchange official visits shortly in connection with the normalization process.

Weizman will meet this Sunday with the directors general of the various Israeli ministries to discuss normalization as it applies to each of their respective fields. The directors general will then contact their counterparts in Egypt to prepare mutual agreements in various areas.

## VEIL SAYS IF ISRAEL'S EXISTENCE IS THREATENED EUROPEAN NATIONS SHOULD TAKE MILITARY ACTION TO SAFEGUARD IT

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30 (JTA) — Simone Veil, president of the Parliament of Europe, said here last night that if Israel's existence as a state is threatened the European nations should "take military force" to safeguard it.

Veil, in Washington with a delegation from the European Parliament, emphasized at a news conference that "one thing that must be repeated, and I must repeat it, is that the existence of Israel will never be allowed to be threatened."

"This is obvious to me and others," she said speaking in French to diplomatic correspondents

from many nations at the Washington offices of the European community. "But I sometimes wonder if the Israelis are all that sure, if that is indeed true for all Europeans."

"We must be absolutely clear on that and say very clearly that if there is a threat to Israel's very existence there would be a very brutal reaction in the part of Europe," she said. Asked what "brutal" signifies, Veil replied that "if the existence of Israel is threatened — I am not referring to possible incidents on her borders — Europe should take military action." She indicated that this is a "commitment" from "all the European countries — actually all countries of the world."

"Israel is a state and the existence of the state must be defended," she emphasized. "I am convinced there is no doubt about this" among the European Economic Community's nine-member countries, she added. "But," she reiterated, "I sometimes wonder if Israelis themselves wonder if that is all that certain."

When she was asked whether she felt the same way about the "people of Afghanistan," Veil replied that "It is not the existence of the state of Afghanistan that is threatened but a regime that is threatened."

Veil, who survived Auschwitz to become the most popular political figure in France and was French Minister of Health before being elected European Parliament president, spoke about Israel following questions from the Jewish Telegraphic Agency's reporter, who noted that in her previous statements on this Washington visit this week, including her National Press Club address and in a question period there, the Arab-Israeli situation was not discussed.

#### Every Crisis Endangers Israel

In her response, Veil said, "everytime the world — the Middle East — is in crisis, Israel's situation becomes more difficult." She said that Israel's military, economic and "even psychological" situations "always have greater difficulties when conditions are unstable."

"In my personal opinion that's why Israel hesitates to go swiftly into concessions," she said. She added that those responsible for Israel's security always find it difficult to enter into peace agreements or a treaty "when world changes" are taking place.

"Israel perhaps would be readier to make concessions if Western Europe or the United Nations could guarantee Israel's security," she said. "The country can't take risks when the situation is unsafe."

The events in Afghanistan and Iran "make the situation more serious still," she said. Iran's situation has "already made an economic impact" on Israel since Israel received much of its oil from Iran. Jews in Iran, she added, are "not directly threatened but their situation is precarious."

"Tensions are increasing," because of the Afghanistan crisis but that "may have modified" the positions of "some" Arab countries, she said. "There might be some measure of solidarity against the Soviet Union," she observed, but she did not know if it would help Israel.

"It may create further links among themselves against Israel," she warned.

Emphasizing the Camp David peace process "must continue," Veil said, "Israel's interest is to

try to stabilize the country and work for agreements" and "friends of Israel should try to help Israel help stabilize her situation. Friends who came from Israel last week told me the inflation is catastrophic — not like Germany (in the 1920s), but extremely high. Friends of Israel who want Israel to survive — that's obvious — everybody does — feel Israel must seize every opportunity to improve her situation. And Israel's friends should seize at every opportunity that appears to help."

#### U.S. TO SPEED UP DELIVERY OF 74 F-16 PLANES TO ISRAEL

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30 (JTA) — The 75 F-16 fighter planes that Israel has ordered from the United States will be in Israel's possession by October, 1981 instead of in 1984 or 1985 as originally expected. The advance in the delivery date was noted today by the Pentagon and General Dynamics Corp., manufacturer of the jet combat plane. It was made possible because the Israeli government picked up the contract for 55 of the aircraft which the U.S. had made with Iran but which was cancelled after the revolution in that country last year.

The Pentagon and General Dynamics also disclosed that the first of the 75 aircraft "currently contracted" will be turned over to the Israel Air Force "tomorrow of Fort Worth, Tex. The single F-16 will be piloted by Brig. Gen. Amos Lapidot of the Israel Air Force and U.S. Air Force Maj. H. W. Powly on a flight to Hill Air Force Base in Utah for training Israeli pilots. The number of Israeli pilots at the Utah air base was not disclosed.

#### ISRAEL BOND LEADERS PLEDGE MAXIMUM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUNDS TO HELP BUILD INFRA-STRUCTURE IN THE NEGEV

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Jan. 30 (JTA) — Four hundred United States, Canadian and European Israel Bond leaders pledged to provide Israel with maximum economic development funds to help build a vast new infrastructure in the 4,600-square-mile Negev region, the nation's new frontier, after the peace treaty with Egypt takes full effect in 1982. Billions of dollars are needed for new energy facilities, water pipelines, roads, communication systems, sewage and industrial complexes.

Meeting for two days here as part of the 1980 Prime Minister's conference of the State of Israel Bonds, the Jewish leaders adopted a "declaration of solidarity," committing themselves to support a new \$1 billion Economic Development for Peace Loan Issue.

Declaring that "only a strong, economically secure and confident Israel can help assure the coming of peace," the delegates pledged themselves "to continue to aid Israel through Israel Bonds." The statement was adopted yesterday at a concluding dinner in the presence of Baron Alain de Rothschild, president of the Consistoire Central Israelite; Claude Kelman, chairman of the European Executive Committee, State of Israel Bonds, and Sam Rothberg of Peoria, Illinois, general chairman, State of Israel Bonds.

Rothberg expressed the concern of many delegates when he declared that the upheaval in Iran and developments in Afghanistan have created a very disturbing situation in the Middle East,

requiring Israel's defense expenditures to remain at the highest level despite the peace treaty with Egypt and the ongoing autonomy talks.

In addition to meetings with European Bond leaders, the U.S. and Canadian representatives met with members of the French Jewish community, participated in services at the Rothschild Synagogue and conducted ceremonies at the Memorial of the Martyrs, honoring the memory of the Holocaust victims. The contributions of Theodor Herzl to the Zionist dream and the impact of the Dreyfus trial were recalled at the Ecole Militaire, where delegates conducted a brief ceremony.

The members of the 1980 Prime Minister's conference left tonight for Jerusalem where they will meet with Premier Menachem Begin, Finance Minister Yigal Hurwitz, Defense Minister Ezer Weizman and others during five days of discussion and viewing economic development projects in Israel.

### COALITION REBUTS COURT CHARGE OF BIAS IN POLICE EXAMINATION

By Ben Gallob

NEW YORK, Jan. 30 (JTA) — An expert in recruitment of Jews for the city's police department declared today, in rebuttal to a U.S. District Court ruling that the police examination last June discriminated against Blacks and Hispanics, that it was impossible to devise a test which would meet Civil Service standards and still assure that a given proportion of test-takers from minority groups would pass.

Louis Weiser, a retired police officer who is president of the Council of Jewish Organizations in Civil Service, made that comment at a press conference convened at the America-Israel Friendship House here by a coalition representing eight ethnic police and civil service organizations.

The press conference was called to express the coalition's concern over the Jan. 11 ruling by Federal Judge Robert Carter that the tests were discriminatory and ordering a 50 percent quota for Black and Hispanic appointees from the list of candidates who passed not only the written examination last June but also physical, medical and psychological tests.

Carter's ruling left the city with the option of either accepting the Judge's quota order or of suspending new appointments, pending the outcome of further legal action. The city chose to appeal, suspending new appointments as of this month.

Weiser had said previously that 18 to 20 successful Jewish candidates would have been "bumped" if the city had accepted Carter's quota appointment order. He also said that a lengthy delay in resumption of appointments because of the pending legal battle would almost certainly lead to some of the Jewish candidates deciding to look for jobs elsewhere.

The legal battle began when the Guardians Association, representing Black police officers, and the Hispanic Society of Police Officers filed suit in federal court in Manhattan, charging that the June examination was biased against minority group members who were at a disadvantage because of the allegedly inferior education they had received in city public schools.

The city, in a brief submitted on Jan. 14 to the federal Court of Appeals for the Second District, asked the Appeals Court to stay Carter's preliminary injunction. The Appeals Court refused, "but did promise to speed up a hearing on the city's appeal and set a date for that hearing for Feb. 5.

Weiser said a friend of the coalition brief from the coalition had been accepted by the Appeals Court. The brief was submitted on behalf of the eight organizations which sponsored the press conference today. They are the Columbia Association, the Emerald Society, the Pulaski Association, the Shomrim Society and the Eastern Orthodox St. Paul Society — all made up of police officers — and the Council of Jewish Organizations in Civil Service, the National Conference of Shomrim Societies, and the Grand Council of Steuben Societies in Civil Service.

Weiser also pointed out, at the press conference, that the police department had taken "extraordinary measures" in an effort to assure that the June test was not only job-related but also non-discriminatory and culturally unbiased. He said the examination was based on an eighth-grade reading level, as certified by education experts, though the test materials which every recruit must pass at the Police Academy are at college level standards.

He said that among the "extraordinary measures" were job studies and study of performance records to determine essential qualities for effective performance by police officers. He added that the recruitment and training process for police last year was praised by both the Guardians Association and the Hispanic Society as far back as last April. The police department reported that 36,747 persons took the test and 13,749 passed it.

Weiser said proof the test's fairness was the fact that according to figures submitted by the Guardians Association and the Hispanic Society, more than 2000 minority candidates passed the test, representing 15.5 percent of the total number of passing candidates.

### RICHARD LEVITT IS JTA INTERN

NEW YORK, Jan. 30 (JTA) — Richard Levitt, a second-year graduate student at Columbia University's School of International Affairs, began a three-and-a-half month internship program once a week at the Jewish Telegraphic Agency this week. Levitt, 24, is from Los Angeles, Calif., but says he's been "a native New Yorker" for almost two years.

Levitt specializes in Western European affairs at Columbia, and recently finished a three-month assignment for the Bureau of European Affairs of the U.S. Department of State. Assigned to the Political Section of the American Mission to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in Brussels, Belgium, Levitt said he had a small taste of government work and decided to try to find his niche in journalism instead.

In the past year, he has also interned at Facts on File, a weekly news digest, and the research department of Newsweek. But Levitt said he grew up reading JTA columns in the Jewish paper in Los Angeles, The Heritage, and figures "this is the kind of place where you learn to become a reporter. Not in school and not at a publication that has a huge staff and no patience."

## RABBI WILL SERVE AS JEWISH CHAPLAIN AT THE LAKE PLACID WINTER OLYMPICS

By Rochelle Saidel Wolk

LAKE PLACID, N.Y., Jan. 30 (JTA) -- Rabbi Selig Auerbach's pastoral duties will be greatly extended over the next few weeks, as he serves as the Jewish chaplain during the 1980 Winter Olympics here.

In addition to his usual role as rabbi at the Lake Placid Synagogue, with a membership of 10 families, Auerbach will be the Jewish chaplain at Camp Adirondack, which will house the National Guard and State personnel, and on call at the Olympic Village. (Camp Adirondack normally functions as a minimum security prison, but inmates have been temporarily relocated until after the Olympics.)

The only Jewish member of the Olympics Religious Affairs Committee which is composed of some 10 local clergymen, Auerbach said in a telephone interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that this is the first time in the history of the Olympics that religion has been officially recognized.

His committee's major responsibilities for athletes and spectators will include emergency human services, local religious entertainment, religious literature distribution, provision of worship services and religious media coverage. Chaplaincy service at the Olympic Village will be available 24 hours a day, with a dozen chaplains serving on a rotating basis.

### Synagogue Will Provide Services

Lake Placid Synagogue will provide daily afternoon-evening services, Auerbach said, and also will serve as a warm-up station and coffee house. Although he does not anticipate a tremendous demand for daily minyan, he has already heard from one spectator who has five yartzeits during the two weeks of the Olympics. From the support staff who are already at Lake Placid, he has only been contacted by one Jew, a person affiliated with ABC television. He has also been informed that four Israeli media people will attend.

A letter was sent to all teams stating that arrangements for kosher food would be available at the Olympic Village, but he has not yet received a request for this service. The only Jewish team member of whom he is presently aware is an American woman who will ski for a South American or Central American country, but she has not contacted him, Auerbach said.

A native of Germany, Auerbach has lived in Lake Placid since 1961. He was educated at Maximilian University, and Haldesheimer Seminary in Berlin, and Jews College, London, and came to the United States in 1941.

### NO ISRAELIS AT WINTER OLYMPICS

NEW YORK, Jan. 30 (JTA) -- Although the Israel Olympic Committee (IOC) has received an invitation from the United States Olympic Committee to participate in the upcoming Winter Games at Lake Placid during the early part of February, the Israelis have turned down the bid.

Chaim Glovinsky, Secretary of the Israel Olympic Committee, advised the United States officials, "Unfortunately we don't have enough snow here in Israel to develop ice skaters and

skiers. Therefore we shall not be able to send competitors who are capable of meeting the best from around the world."

In addition to the invite to the IOC, the press department of the United States Olympic Committee advised Israel that it is entitled to send four media people to cover the Winter Games. This is very important because all future allocations for press representations from various countries are based on the number of correspondents who cover an aspect of the Olympic Games such as the Lake Placid competition.

Consequently, Israel has decided to fulfill its quota of four writers in order to make certain that in future Games that country will not be shut out or curtailed in any way so far as press representation is concerned.

### ISRAEL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE POSTPONES DECISION ON BOYCOTTING MOSCOW GAMES

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Jan. 30 (JTA) -- The 25-member Israel Olympic Committee, as expected, decided last night to postpone for one month a decision whether to boycott the Olympic Games in Moscow this summer. Meanwhile, the Israeli athletes will continue to train for the Games.

The committee's presidium had met earlier with Premier Menachem Begin, who had told them he believed that Israel should not enter the Games if the majority of the Western countries boycott the Olympics. Opinion in Israel is lining up in opposition to participating in the Games as more and more Olympic committees are backing President Carter's call for moving the Games out of Moscow if the Soviet Union does not leave Afghanistan by Feb. 20.

### REPORT JEWS IN KABUL NOT THREATENED

TEL AVIV, Jan. 30 (JTA) -- There are about 80 Jews left in Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan, and their situation is not bad, although a number plan to leave the country which was invaded by Soviet forces last month. That information was reported by Meir Akashloma, an Afghani Jewish textile merchant who arrived in Israel from Kabul two weeks ago to join his wife and the four of his 10 married children who live here.

According to Akashloma, the Jews in Kabul live in a closely knit community and do not experience hostility on the part of their Moslem neighbors. Kabul has returned to normal since the Soviets installed the new pro-Moscow regime. Shops have reopened but business is very slow, he reported.

There is one synagogue in Kabul but no rabbi. A shochet (ritual slaughterer) serves the needs of the Jewish community. Akashloma said that eight Jewish families who hold passports intend to leave the country as soon as they get exit visas. The families who do not possess passports may run into difficulties if they wish to leave, he said.

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- A pledge of \$2,000,000 has been made by Minister of Health Eliezer Shostak, American Red Magen David for Israel (ARMDI), Friends of MDA in Great Britain and South African Friends of MDA, to help Magen David Adom meet its current deficit incurred in fulfilling its obligations as Israel's National Emergency Medical, Blood and Disaster Service.