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ISRAEL INTELLIGENCE CONFIRMS
PLO HAS SOVIET TANKS
By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Feb. 21 (JTA) — Israeli intelligence services distributed two derial reconnoissance photographs today showing Soviet-made I— 34 traks in the hands of Rulestinian terrorish in south Lebonon. An army spokesman said the traks, of World War II vintage, are positioned near Tyre, a terrorist stronghold on the Lebanese coast.

The photos beer out Israelli reports and corrotionating information by the Christian-Pholongist radio in Lebanan, that the Polestine Liberation Organization was neceiving heavy equipment from Russio. The PLO has denied this. Israel intelligence also has information that Polestinians are undergoing training in amored worther in Syria.

and in Soviet bloc countries.

Meanwhile, Premier Menachem Begin had lavish praise today for the Merkava tank, designed and manufactured in Israel, and the man who designed it, Gen. Israel Tal. Begin was the quest of the army ordinance corp at an installation where the tank is produced. He noted its main characteristics which are maximum protection for its crew, its speed and maneverability.

ISRAELLENVOY COMPLAINS OVER LACK OF UNIFIED STAND ON U.S. ARMS TO EGYPT By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Feb. 21 (JTA) — Ephroim Ervon, Israel's Ambassador to the U.S., completined toddy that his Embassy in Washington finds it difficult to compaign against the U.S., Egyptian arms deal because there is no unified stand in Israel on the issue. In the course of an address to senior Foreign Ministry officials, Ervon lashed out at "yordim" (emigrants from Israel). In the U.S., who, he claimed, disparage Israel. He ofsa, suggested that feeding Cabinet ministers. "Watch their tongues" because reports of their disagreements reach the oversees press.

On the issue of the proposed sale of sophisticated American weaponry to Egypt, Evon said
there were three views in Israel. Defense Minister
Ezer Weizman believes that Israel should not oppose the deals while the two countries are striving
to normalize their relations, he said. Another
school, headed by Moshe Arens, chairman of the
Knesser's foreign Affairs and Security Committee,
wants Israel to take drustic action to appose the
deals, and Premier Mepachem Begin says Israel
should concentrate on trying to limit the quantity
and available forms all 400 Forest.

and quality of arms soldito Egypt,.

"How can one fight the American intentions to supply Egypt with sophisticated arms when 15° roe!'s leaders differ an the issue and when the American Administration, knows of the difference? Evran asked. He said threel i pitormation efforts in the U.S., faced objective difficulties. According to Evran, the yordim are one of the main evils because "for each information emissary that arrived from Israel we see for yordim who spread slander against the country." He also said that Israel's interests were not served by resports of clashes between Israeli's and Arabs on, the West Bank which receive wide coverage in the American media.

CARTER REPORTED CONS DERING F-15 FOR EGYPT
By Joseph Polokoff

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21 (JTA) — President Carter was reported yesterday to be considering a plan to provide Egypt with F-15 fighters, the best combat aircraft in the U.S. arsenal, but wants Egypt to settle for the time being for the less sophisticated F-16s. According to White House sources, Carter bld President Arnwar Sodot in a letter over the weekend that he would, be willing to consider supplying F-15s but the offer was essentially an attempt to show Sodot that he does not consider Egypt a "second class" friend."

The Carter letter was reportedly in reply to a query by Sodi a bout the F-15s. Administration a sources said the Egyptians also asked for 80 F-16s but the U.S. wants to provide only 38 at this time. The sources indicated that the Carter Administration will try to convince Egypt that, at least for the time, being, it should not press for the F-15s because they. cost more (than SI7 million apiece, have expensive maintening requirements and a long delivery period.

It was indicated, however, that the main reason for the Administration's coulton is that it wants to avoid concern in Israel that the F-Iss might conceivably be used against it should Sadat fall from power and grother Egyptian leader take over who might not support the peace process or U.S., strategy in the Middle East. The U.S., is committed to sell the slower F-Ios to Saudi Arabia and Israel. Israel is getting F-Ios as well.

PENTAGON OFFICIAL IN ISRAEL FOR ARMS TALKS
By Yitzhak Shorgil

TEL AVIV, Feb. 21 (J1A) — David McGiffert, the U.S, Assistant Secretary of Defense; arrived here from Cairo today and immediately went into the first of two scheduled meetings with Defense Minister Ezer Weizrann. McGiffert declined to make any statement on his arrival. Tomorrow he will visit the two U.S; financed airfields being constituted for Israel in the Negev and will also visit Israel Air-rosh Industries. He leaves largel thomorrow afternoon.

Deputy Defense Minister Mordechoi Zippori told reporters that the tolks with McGiffert will ded with three main theirs: the Negev airfields, over which the Pentagon official is in direct charge; the question of new generation of the Istael-made Kitir jet interceptor; and the matter of deferring-some of Israel's arms requests. Zippori soid Israel was not cancelling those aims but would prefer to purchase them at a later date because of its present financial difficulties.

American plans to provide Egypt with sophisficated weapons may also come up during McGiffert's visit. Premier Menachem Begin said today that israel was keeping a close watch on that matter.

YADIN WARNS SYRIA By Gil Sedan

JERUSAEEM, Feb. 2! (JLb) — Deputy Premier Yigael Yadin, joined Premier Menachem. Begin in warning Syria not to take any offersive measures in the north. Speaking before the 21st International Conference of the World Union for Pragressive Judaism here, Yadin said thousands of Syrian taks were stationed on the northeastern front. They were

moving from place to place, thus creating a focus of tension, he said. Similar warnings were issued earlier this

Similar warnings were issued earlier this month by Begin. However, after having twice warned Syria in toughly worded statements, Begin mode a point of saying that I savel had no interest in healing up the northern border. This statement was interpreted here as a response to American requests to keep a low profile on the northern border, Yodin's Syrian statement was the first in several weeks. Yodin did not specify what time periog he was referring to

NO PROGRESS IN LATEST ROUND OF AUTONOMY TALKS By Gil Sedon

ERUSALEM, Feb. 21 (JTA) — The Israeli and Egyption working groups concluded three days of deliberations on autonomy today with no apparent progress to report. The negotiators, meeting in Tel Aviv, mode no attempt to deal with basic is sues but devoted their time to an effort of categorize the various powers inherent in the autonomy scheme.

It was announced, meanwhile, that the chief negotiators of Israel, Egypt and the U.S. will meet in The Hague next week instead of London. The London verue was annotneed when Israeli Interior Minister Yosef Burg, Prime Minister Mustapha Khalil and President-Conter's special. Ambassador, Sol Linowitz, met earlier this month at Herzliya, British sources were quoted as saying the Israelis ruled out London as on expression of displeasure over Foreign Secretary-Lond Carnington's latest Middle East initiative, Israeli officials denied this and said the reasons for the change were technical. They confirmed; however, that Israel refused to go to Paris, which was also under consideration, because of the French government's negative attinude toward the Israeli-Egyptian peace process.

During their meetings in Iel-Aviv this week the working group attempted to classify the autonomy powers into three cotegories — those that, would be transferred to the projected administrative council, those that would remain with the Israeli Millitary Covernment and those to be abarded by Israelis and Pulestinians. The delegations did not discuss any controversial issues such as the legal status of the longiton the West Bank, control of woter resources or legislative powers for the administrative council. Nevertheless, Israeli spokesman Dan Pattir soid the practical, businesslike approach by the parties was in itself. "On achievement."

### ORTHODOX GROUPS BLAST JAKOBOVITS

NEW YORK, Feb. 21 (JTA) -- Two Americon Orthodox groups sharply demounced British Chief Robbi Immanuel Jokopovits, today for remarks-critical of Israel's approach to peace. Jakobovits hod suggested, at a meeting with Jewish journalists in London last week, that a Palestinian state could be created eventually if the Polestinians proved they could live peacefully with Israel.

Rabbi Bergard Rosensweig, president of the Rabbinical Council of America, called Labbovits' remorks 'hamful statements which can dam age the position of the legitimate government of Israel and which can bring comfort to Israel's enemies at a very delicate stage in the autonomy negotiations." He said the Rabbinical Council, which represents more than 1000 Orthodox pabls;

In the U.S. and Canado, "categorically rejects Rabbi Islabovits" position and supports the government of Israel in its ongoing search for a just solution to the autonomy problems within the framework of the Camp David accords. "He stressed that "Its should be clear that the Camp David documents do not envision to Polestinian state with its capital in tast Jerusalem nor does it envision the liquidation of the State of Israel under any circumstances."

Israel under any circumstances.

Robbi Louis Bernstein, president of the Religious Zionists of America, characterized Jakabovits' remarks as "mischievous statements" that "came at the very moment that an Israeli Embassy is opening, in Cairo and, on Egyptian one in Tel Avives" Bernstein observed that "It is only respect for the position that he holds that has spared Robbi Jospovits from criticism previously. By asserting that he would accept an Arub state with Jerusalem as its capital, Robbi Jospovits has "an Israeliem" in the result of the Robbi with a robbinic form at the RZA convention "To debate your position with other religious leaders," (See related story P.3.)

# U.S. CONFIRMS 'SLIGHT' DROP IN JEWISH EMIGRATION FROM USSR

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2I (JTA) — The State Department said today that there has been "a slight downturn" in Soviet Jewry emigration thus far this year and in the last two months of last year.

"Somewhet over 5000 (Soviet Jews) received exit permission so for this year," spokesman Tom Reston said. "If that figure is accurate, it does represent a slight downturn over the same period last year. The slight downturn, I want to emphasize this, was already evident in the last two months of 1979;" he said. "To give you a standard of samparison the monthly total over the past 12 months was about 4200 departures a month." (See related stories P. 4.)

# ARRIVES TO OPEN EMBASSY

JERUSALEM, Feb. 21 (JTA) — Twelve Egyption diplomots, the advance party of the Egyption diplomots mission to Iswael, arrived lodgy. Mobammed Hozandar, Charge d'Affaires at the new Egyption Embassy, who heads the delegation, said that Ambasador Soad Mortada will arrive in Israel at the beginning of next week. The Egyption Embasy will be quartered temporarily at the Tel Awiv Hilbon Hotel until a permanent location is found in Tel Aviv.

Hozandar said he hoped the opening of the Embassy would lead the way to an averall peace in the Middle East. "Let us hope that this mod will not be a long one," he added.

AMSTERDAM (JTA) — A high level meeting between officials of the Netherlands foreign Ministry and the Relestine Liberation Organization took place this week in Damascus, at the initiative of The Netherlands. This was a support of the Netherlands of the division for Africa and the Middle East of the Netherlands foreign Ministry, and Johan Van Ede Der Fals—The Netherlands Ambassador in Damascus, met Abdel Hassan Abu Maizer, a gember of the PLO and head of its International Affairs Division and Brig. Gen. Abdul Razzoq al Tohio, Middess director of the political department of the PLO.

CORRECTION: Zvi Brosh, the Minister of Information at the Israeli Embossy in Washington, was eroneously quoted in the Feb. 19 Daily News Bulletin as saying that Israel will spend 10 percent of its gross national product on defense this year. The correct figure is 40 percent.

### JAKOBOVITS, REPLYING TO CRITICS UPHOLDS RIGHT OF DIASPORA JEWS TO SPEAK OUT ON MATTERS AFFECTING ISRAEL By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Feb. 21 (JTA) - Chief Robbi Immanuel Jakobivits declared that It is his "belief that Jews in the diaspora, while not wishing or entitled to participate in Israel's decision-making process, should contribute to it by freely expressing their views, even in public and even if they are sometimes critical.

The British Chief Rabbi affirmed that position in a statement released today, responding to widespread criticism here and abroad of his recent remarks in which he took issue with the present Israeli government's approach to peace and a

solution of the Palestinian problem.
Jakobovits, an Orthodox rabbi, also sharply-assailed the use of religious beliefs to justify certain policies. "I regard it as hypocrisy to use the slogan the Bible is our mandate to demand rights from others and not to impose duties on our selves equally mandated by the Bible," he said. "I cannot see the justification for relying on divine province for the security of Israel, unless we are prepared -- by moral rectifude and spiritual excellence -- to fulfill our part of the Cove-nant whereby the land was promised to us unconditionally."

He added, "I share the passionate hope that we are indeed now entering the beginning of the final rademption' but neither Jewish history nor Jewish leaching, in my view, entitle us to base national policy on the certainty that we have

clearly identified the Messianic footsteps."

At another point in his statement, Jakob ovits observed that "Religious or quasi-religious fervor is, after all, today the most vaciferous." dynamic of Zionist militancy at one end of the political spectrum, just as it is of militant anti-Zionism at the other end. Whether I live in Jerusalem or London, I cannot help being alarmed at the prospect of Jewish religious fundamentalism being seen (rightly or wrongly) as an impediment to peace, with incalculable damage to Judaism itself, especially in a world now threatened with reversal to the Middle Ages by religious fanaticism elsewhere: rience, I want Jewish religious voices of moderation to be heard ....

# Clarifies Remarks On Palestinians

Rabbi Jakobovits went on to clarify and amplify those remarks he made to a group of Anglo-Jewish and Israeli journalists at his home a week ago which drew the most fire from critics in Israel, the U.S. and the British Common wealth. These were his willingness to see the establishment of a Palestrinian state, even with its capital in East Jerusalem, if the Palestrinians proved over a substantial period that they could live peacefully with Israel; and his assertion that, "If I knew we could never attain peace with the Arab world, I would say "liquidate Israel now"."

In his statement today, Jakobovits declared "Far from contemplating a Palestinian state now, or from expressing any views on the present auton omy talks, or even the settlement policies, I argued that all options should be left open after a ten-year period of completely normal relations with the Arabs to provide Israel with a breathing space, whilst gradually creating a new psychological climate of understanding between neighbors and greater sympathy from the world community.

"Far from advocating any immediate terri-

forial concessions as the Peace Now movement does, I would not surrender anything until convincing evi-dence of real peace has been demonstrated," Jok -obovits said. "And far from contemplating Israel's liquidation (perish the thought), I asserted my absolute faith in the State by spelling out the alternatives, designed to nourish the hope of an eventual settlement

The Chief Rabbi expressed concern over "the threat of the existing policies generating ever more embittered polarization between "hawks" and 'doves' inside Israel." He observed that "Perhaps it needs an" outsider to advance a formula which provides some middle around which may lead to a consensus neither to give up any territory until tangible experience of eace is at hand, nor to foreclase any future options by the word, 'never'.

# Sees Growing Arab Strength

Jakobovits suggested that "There are factors which are bound to be more clearly visible abroad and more objectively assessed in the perspective of distance, particularly when they are related to attitudes of a generally hostile world for beyond Israel's embattled borders. Moreover, a monolithic voice by diaspora Jewry, invariably echoing official Israeli policies, would lose its credibility; governments, newspapers and public opinion would know that the facade of unanimity is contrived."

Accordingly, Jakobovits said, "Jews through-out the world should be seen to wrestle with the problems of peace. By making no more secret of it than the Israelis themselves do, they would show eal in support of Israel's interests would carry greater weight, both with whom they want to identify and whose thinking would be enriched by the crossfertilization of ideas in the quest for a solution to

our perplexities. Jakobovits warned that "Arab resources in wealth, manpower, modern weaponry and world influence will increasingly tilt the balance against

Israel. Short of miracles and inexhaustible American goodwill, based on the hazards of American elec-tion carnivals, Israel's armed might could become irrelevant to her security in a convulsive world where might rules and powerful countries are tendered prostrate and defenseless overnight," he said.

# DISPUTE OVER SECRETARY THREATENS FUNCTIONING OF CAIRO EMBASSY

FRUSALEM, Feb. 21 (JTA) -- The smooth functioning of the new Israeli Embassy in Cairo was threatened today by a dispute between Ambassadordesignate Eliahu Ben-Elissar and Foreign Ministry employes over who should be the envoy's personal secretary. Ben-Elissar insists on Fanny Ashkenazi,

his private secretary for the past seven years.

But the general assembly of Foreign Ministry employes voted overwhelmingly today to demand that the select a new secretary from among qualified Ministry personnel. The employes claimed that about 15 secretaries at the Ministry are about to be dismissed for economy reasons and therefore every job opening is important. They rejected a compromise pro-posal to send Ms. Ashkenazi to Cairo as a staff mem-ber of the Prime Minister's Office to which she was credited when Ben-Elissar was Director General of that bureau. They also insisted that the Ambassador's private chauffeur in Cairo must be a Foreign Ministry worker. Ben-Elissar, who will go to Cairo next week, has yet to name the economic and press attaches for the Cairo legation. (By Gil Sedan

### DULZIN CHARGES DROP-OUTS HURTING CHANCES FOR OTHERS TO GET EXIT VISAS By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Feb. 21 (JTA) - Leon Dulzin, chairman of the World Zionis Organization and Jewish Agency Executives, said here that it is now more urgent than ever to reduce the rate of drop-outs -- Soviet Jews who settle in countries other than Israel after leaving the USSR -- be cause of a new development in Soviet emigration policy. According to Dulzin, Soviet authorities in the Ukraine and more recently in Moscow, have rejected many of the affidavits sent by Israeli relatives of Russian Jews seeking to emigrate for "family reunion.

Dulzin said the Soviet rationale in these cases is that the would-be emigrants have closer relatives who have recently left the USSR ostensibly for Israel and ask: "Why does your brother/ uncle/cousin not send a family reunion application?" The answer in many cases, Dulzin said, is that the brother, uncle or cousin is not in Israel

but in the U.S.

He noted a drop-off in emigration figures from the USSR in recent months but did not link it directly to the new policy of rejecting applications from relatives in Israel. He said it was too early to tell whether the drop-off was a consequence of the superpower tensions resulting from the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan

In January, 1980, 2900 Jews left the Sovie Union, 900 fewer than in January, 1979, Dulzin said and the downward trend continued during the first half of February. He said the figures for March would be a significant indicator of the reasons since they would reflect emigration processes set in motion after the Afghan crisis exupted Dulzin said there are currently 400,000 family reunion applications in the hands of Soviet Jews seeking to emigrate and that applications were being sent to Russia at the rate of 15,000 a month

# Urges Organizations Act

According to Dulzin, the drop-outs are pre venting the emigration of other Soviet Jews. He cited this "new development" as an added reason to discourage the drop-outs. Dulzin has been in the forefront of a compaign to persuade the Amer ican Jewish community and aspecially HIAS and the Joint Distribution Committee, to cut their aid programs to Soviet Jewish emigres.

So far he has had only limited success. Heclaimed, however, that the Jewish communities in 16 American cities, including Las Angeles, Cleveland and Miami, Nove accepted Premier Menochem Begin's proposal that aid be given only to those Soviet Yews who have close relatives in the U.S. The others would be left to fend for themselves and presumably would have to go to Israel. Only Jews holding Israeli visas are allowed to leave the Soviet Union.
Digit said the issue will be discussed at a meeting of the joint government-Jewish Agency

coordinating committee here next week, chaired by Begin.

Speaking on another matter, Dulzin indicated that the Jewish Agency would accept a compromise formula proposed by Begin to resolve the long-standing dispute over whether the Agenc or the Absorption Ministry should have exclusive control of immigration and absorption. The Begin plan would share authority between the two.

Dulzin also said that he expected next week's meeting here of the Jewish Agency's

Board of Governors to approve an \$80 million budget for "Project Renewal," the major slum rehabilitation program being carried out by Israel in partnership with world Jewry. Dulzin said there is \$15 million cash on hand for the project and another \$120 mil tion has been pledged.

# CRANSTON CITES EMIGRATION SLOWDOWN By Joseph Polckoff

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21 (JTA) — Sen. Alan Cranston (D.Calif.), Deputy Majority Leader in the Senate, said today that the Soviet Union is jeopardizing its position in the "community of nations" if it continues to "curtail" Soviet Jewish emigration and extends the "harassments" of "refusnils" and

human rights activists.

Cranston said in a statement that only 2803. Soviet Jews were allowed to emigrate in January, the lowest level in 16 months. In September, 1978, 2523 Jews were allowed to emigrate. Since then, the monthly totals have increased steadily. The total last month was 1342 less than in December. Cranston noted that the monthly average during all of 1979 was 4277. He gave the total for 1979 as 51,320, compared with 28,864 in 1978, and 16,737 in 1977. At the rate of emigration for the first 15 days of this month, the February total will be 2552.

Cranston said that "the decreased emigration comes amid harassment of Jews, especially refusniks and of human rights activists in the wake of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, If the visa curtailment and harassment continue, it will further undermine the Soviet position in the community of nations and will further reduce the possibility that we will see any significant improvement of U.S.-Soviet relations in the months and years ahead."

# Applications Increase

Crassion emphasized that the drop in emigra-tion comes despite a "marked increase in applications during 1979 and follows by only four months the record-high emigration level of 4746 last October. Cranston speculated that the drop is a result of decisions taken by Soviet authorities last fall, before the invasion of Afghanistan. In the wake of the inwasion, he continued, the Soviets heightened requirements for emigration applications and the closing of visa-control offices (ovir) and a crackdown on dissidents.

### JEWS URGED TO INVESTIN ISRAEL U.S. JEWS URC

NEW YORK, Feb. 21 (JTA) -- Arraham Shavit, chairman of the board of directors of El Al Israel Airlines, called on American lewry vesterday to increase its investments in Israel. We are good partners to do business with, " Shavit, who is here on a short visit. told a luncheon sponsored by the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here.

Declaring that Israel is facing now "one of its most diffidult times, politically, economically and socially," Shavit said Israel needs now the support of American Jews. "It is worthwhile to invest in Israel, " he said, adding that investments are most needed in economic infrastructure projects. predicted that despite the new cutbacks in El Al the company is going to offer better services in the future. He urged American Jews to use El Al for their trips. Noting that regular air service between Tel Aviv and Cairo will begith-March 3, Shavit said that El Al and Lotusair, the new Egyptian air line, will each operate two flights a week at the start. Shavit also spoke at a luncheon sponsored by the American Jewish Committee today: