

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## GISCARD CALLS FOR PLO PARTICIPATION IN THE CURRENT MIDEAST PEACE PROCESS

By Edwin Eyrav

PARIS, March 10 (JTA) -- President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing has called for the Palestine Liberation Organization's participation in the current peace process as the only way to solve the Middle East problem. The French President launched his appeal in Amman at a state dinner given in his honor by King Hussein of Jordan Saturday night.

Giscard said that the Palestinian problem is not one of refugees but of a people seeking for self-determination. He said that their representative, the PLO, should participate in the search for a lasting solution to the Middle East problem. The French President stressed, however, that any solution should preserve the rights of all countries in the region to safe, recognized and guaranteed borders. Contrary to the PLO, he did not specifically mention Israel by name in this last context.

This is the first time that the leader of a major Western country has publicly called for the PLO's participation in any Middle East peace process or negotiation. French officials later said that France will continue its action in favor of Palestinian participation and will try to have United Nations Security Council Resolution 242 amended in this sense should the autonomy talks between Israel, Egypt and the United States fail to reach an acceptable solution by May 26, The Camp David deadline.

Last week in Kuwait, at the start of his nine-day trip to six Arab countries, Giscard called for Palestinian self-determination but did not mention the PLO by name nor call for its participation in the peace talks.

## EEC Members Seen Backing Giscard

French political sources say Giscard has in the meantime obtained the backing of practically all of France's European Economic Community (EEC) allies. These sources say the foreign ministers of the nine-member EEC are due to meet next week in Brussels to study a joint statement recognizing the PLO.

The nine will meet on March 17 and 18 with six of the EEC member states believed to favor such recognition: France, Britain, Belgium, Ireland, Italy and Luxembourg. According to diplomatic sources in Brussels two more members, West Germany and Holland, favor such a statement but are still undecided as to its utility and only one, Denmark is still relatively uncommitted.

If adopted, such a resolution would open the doors to West European recognition by the various individual EEC member states. It could also influence other, non-committed Western states, in Europe and Latin America, and might even have an impact in the United States.

## CRIF Protests Giscard's Policy

Meanwhile, the Representative Council of French Major Jewish Organizations (CRIF) accused Giscard today of "jeopardizing the current Mideast peace process and compromising the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty." The CRIF, in a communique released here tonight, said that "France's organized Jewish community is resolutely opposed to the

French policy as defined by the President." The communique stressed that Giscard's "unilateral declaration and his spectacular initiatives, without demanding that the PLO modifies its charter in which it calls for Israel's destruction, represent a serious danger for Israel." Last week, a four-member French Jewish delegation led by Alain de Rothschild, president of CRIF, met with Premier Raymond Barre to protest against the French initiatives and to call on the government to reconsider its Middle East policies.

## CARTER SUPPORTERS WOOING JEWS IN SERIES OF MEETINGS WITH JEWISH LEADERS

By David Friedman

NEW YORK, March 10 (JTA) -- President Carter's supporters intensified efforts today to win back Jewish supporters in the wake of the United States vote in the United Nations Security Council March 1 for a resolution condemning Israeli settlements and Carter's subsequent repudiation of the vote.

With the New York Primary only 15 days away, Robert Strauss, Carter's campaign manager, and Sol Linowitz, the President's special envoy for Mideast negotiations, met with Jewish leaders at a Manhattan club today at a session in which reporters were barred. In addition, a group of New York leaders, Jews and non-Jews, is scheduled to go to Washington tomorrow to meet personally with the President at the White House.

The meeting today at the Harmonie Club, which was organized last Friday, drew a great deal of interest in the Jewish community. Those invited included supporters of the President as well as those who have not indicated their position in the Presidential race.

One source noted that several leading Jews, who were not invited, have been seeking invitations. At the same time, according to sources, others talked of boycotting today's meeting. Several rabbis as well as the Jewish Defense League, planned demonstrations outside the meeting site.

A spokesman for the Carter-Mondale Campaign Headquarters here said the press was not being allowed into the meeting because it was being considered as "an off-the-record discussion."

Meanwhile, the feeling in some Jewish quarters about Carter's Mideast policy was demonstrated during the visit of Secretary of Transportation Neil Goldschmidt to New York yesterday and today. At a meeting of the Greater New York Committee of Religious Zionists of America last night, members of the audience booed and asked tough questions of Goldschmidt about the President's actions on the UN vote. Goldschmidt was also questioned about the Mideast when he spoke today at a Leadership Conference on Energy Conservation, co-sponsored by the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies and the Jewish Community Relations Council.

A source told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he had never seen feelings run so high in the Jewish Community.

## EYRON SAYS CARTER'S REPUDIATION OF U.S. VOTE IN UN WAS ACT OF COURAGE

By Joseph Palakoff

WASHINGTON, March 10 (JTA) -- Ephraim Evron, Israel's Ambassador to the United States, denounced the governments of West Germany,

France and Britain and scored the United Nations Security Council last night for the positions they are taking toward Israel and its efforts to obtain security and peace.

In an unusually outspoken address before 800 delegates attending the biennial meeting of the B'nai B'rith Women here, Evron nevertheless had kind words for President Carter. He described the President's repudiation of the U.S. vote supporting the March 1 Security Council resolution condemning Israel as "an act of courage." He said, "We accept it in the spirit in which it was made."

The B'nai B'rith Women adopted a resolution this morning calling on Carter "for a plain, unambiguous clarification of American foreign policy in regard to Israel." The resolution expressed "continued dismay at the Carter Administration's explanation of why the U.S. voted on the side of Israel's enemies on the crucial issues of Israel's settlements on the West Bank and the status of Jerusalem."

The B'nai B'rith Women presented their first Perlman Award for Human Achievement to Philip Klutznick, U.S. Secretary of Commerce and a former president of B'nai B'rith. The award is sponsored by Anita Perlman and her late husband Louis Perlman of Chicago, both long active in B'nai B'rith.

#### Questions Role And Responsibility

Evron blasted the Security Council in his address. "The Security Council has not even taken notice of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty nor assisted with it," he said. "Does Israel deserve this? We handed back our military installations (in Sinai) and our only sources of energy and we are in the middle of negotiations — much of it on your (U.S.) behalf. What is the purpose of all this? What is the European role and responsibility?" he asked.

Referring to West Germany, France and Britain, Evron said: "These powers have a special responsibility to Israel due to what happened on their soil only one generation ago. Recently, the German Chancellor (Helmut Schmidt) said he must, as a German, accept self-determination for the Palestinians. I would have thought he would have other priorities. He is joined by President (Valéry Giscard) d'Estaing of France which never helped Christian Lebanon when the PLO massacred them."

"And Great Britain wants to get into the act also. They want to bring new resolutions on the Palestinians in the Security Council. They should not forget how they abandoned us in 1939 during the period of their appeasement and the White Paper. They prohibited (Jewish) immigration into Palestine. They expected the Moslem world to come to their aid when World War II came. Well, they didn't," Evron added. "These countries should remember the past and accept responsibility for the future and let the peace process proceed."

#### U.S.-Israeli Relations

With respect to U.S.-Israeli relations, Evron said: "We in Israel appreciate President Carter's statement last Monday (March 3) repudiating last Saturday's (March 1) UN vote — an unprecedented act. We respect President Carter and because of that respect for President Carter, we received the Security Council resolution and vote with dismay. That resolution contradicts nearly every instance in which the positions and

policies of the U.S., as expounded and stated by the President and his associates and as privately explained to us on numerous occasions."

Klutznick, who followed Evron to the podium, praised the Israeli envoy. "Whatever damage was done in recent days," he said, "I know from personal experience much of it has been rectified by the action of Evron. I know there has been unhappiness. The answer is not in how happy you are but in where we go from here."

Klutznick added: "I have never known a President who was not able to make a mistake. But there is only one Israel and that Israel will not be saved by the perpetuation of differences between it and its one true friend in the world. It's not the night that kills us, it's the frost that kills. Let there be no frost between Israel and America."

#### LEVY PROPOSES CONFISCATION OF ARAB-OWNED LAND IN EAST JERUSALEM

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 10 (JTA) — Housing Minister David Levy has proposed the large-scale confiscation of Arab-owned land in East Jerusalem for the construction of some 10,000 new housing units for Jews on the eastern borders of the city. Levy raised the matter at yesterday's Cabinet meeting but was told to refer it to the special expropriations committee headed by Finance Minister Yigal Hurwitz. The committee is empowered under the law to make the operative decisions on such proposals.

Levy said the new housing project should be built between the existing French Hill and Neve Yaacov neighborhoods which are presently separated by Arab villages. It would create a "Jewish territorial continuum" around the northern and eastern fringes of the city, the Housing Minister said.

Levy claimed last week that Arabs were trying to "establish facts" in the area by gradually building private homes to prevent any Jewish building. He said that there were still only a few Arab houses in the area and that these would not be disturbed by his project.

Levy's plan received a cool reception from Jerusalem officials. A spokesman for the municipality said it should have been implemented years ago but now the political implications are much more serious. He added that existing neighborhoods in East Jerusalem are still suffering from "growing pains" and should be given priority over new projects.

#### DULZIN DECLINES TO MEET WITH POPE

JERUSALEM, March 10 (JTA) — World Zionist Organization Executive chairman Leon Dulzin declined an invitation to meet with Pope John Paul II at the Vatican, apparently because it was extended to him on a personal basis rather than as WZO head. The WZO Executive meeting here today, decided to discuss the incident when Dulzin returns from his current visit to Latin America.

Dulzin reportedly was to have stopped off in Rome en route to Venezuela and to have lunched with the Pope today. Instead, he flew directly to his destination. According to one report, he will meet with the Pope on his way back to Israel. Another report said the Pope will receive Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasser Arafat next week.

Dulzin was praised for his snub to the Pope by Raphael Kotlowitz, head of the Jewish Agency's immigration department. He said, at the WZO Executive meeting, that Dulzin acted properly when he refused to meet the Pontiff except as a representative of the Jewish people. "I think all honor and credit goes to Mr. Dulzin," Kotlowitz said.

**EDUCATORS STAGE STRIKE**

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, March 10 (JTA) -- All Israeli educational institutions, from kindergartens to universities, were closed today as teachers and faculty members went on strike in support of wage demands. The unscheduled holiday put more than a million children and college youths on the streets and was especially hard on working mothers, many of whom were forced to take their youngsters to their places of employment.

The teachers, in elementary through high school grades, have been fighting for months for a pay increase that would bring their salaries to the same level as government-employed engineers. They won their point as a result of a court order upholding their demands and were putting the final touches to a new contract that included a 15 percent-plus wage hike. But when the Finance Ministry demanded that the teachers undertake a no-strike pledge for the rest of the year as a condition of their raise, the union balked.

A one-day strike was called for today and a half-day strike for tomorrow when classes will be dismissed at 11 a.m. The university faculties called a three-day strike starting today to back up their demand for the same supplementary payments that were granted the teachers. The government failed to get a court order to head off the teachers' strike until next Monday when a higher court will rule on the State's appeal against the original court order granting the wage increase.

**TOURISTS WILL RECEIVE VAT REFUND**

JERUSALEM, March 10 (JTA) -- Tourists will receive a refund of the value-added tax (VAT) on goods they purchase in the country, Minister of Tourism Gideon Patt announced yesterday. He advised customs officials and the Civil Aviation Authority that the refund is to be made at the time of their departure.

A special counter will be set up at Ben Gurion Airport where tourists will have to present a wrapped parcel and a receipt in order to claim the refund. Tourists pressed for time will be able to drop the receipt in a box, in which case the refunds will be mailed to their homes. The VAT presently stands at 12 percent of the purchase price but is expected to be increased to 15 percent shortly.

**SHAMIR SWORN IN AS FOREIGN MINISTER**

JERUSALEM, March 10 (JTA) -- Yitzhak Shamir, Knesset Speaker, resigned his office today and took the ministerial oath in the Knesset this evening after the House had approved his appointment as Foreign Minister by a vote of 55-39. The voting broke down predictably along coalition-opposition lines. Earlier, the Liberal Party group within the Likud had unanimously backed Knesset Speaker Yitzhak Ben-Zur to take over from Shamir as Knesset Speaker. The (secret) vote for Speaker is expected tomorrow or Wednesday, with the Labor Alignment likely to put up Knesset member Shlomo Hilel as its candidate. At a brief formal Cabinet session this afternoon the ministers joined Premier Menachem Begin in a toast to the new Foreign Minister.

**ISAAC TENDLER DEAD AT 79**

NEW YORK, March 10 (JTA) -- More than 2000 people attended funeral services yesterday in Manhattan for Rabbi Isaac Tendler. The rabbi,

who died last Friday at age 79 in Suffern, N.Y., after a long illness, was the spiritual leader of the Kaminitzer Synagogue on the Lower East Side of New York City for 57 years. For the last few years he lived in Mansey, N.Y. Among those who delivered eulogies was the Talmudic sage, Rabbi Moshe Feinstein.

Tendler came to the United States from Lithuania in the early 1920s. He was in the first graduating class of Yeshiva University, which ordained him in 1923. As a young rabbi, Tendler was designated spiritual leader of the Kaminitzer Synagogue, named after the town in Lithuania where he and many members of the congregation had emigrated from.

Tendler was a teacher for many years on the Lower East Side, having taught at the Congregation B'Churim Chemed for over 50 years, and at the Rabbi Jacob Joseph School for over 40 years. In addition, he was chairman of the executive council of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis for the last 26 years.

**REPORT ISRAEL ENVOY AMONG HOSTAGES BEING HELD IN BOGOTA**

NEW YORK, March 10 (JTA) -- The Israeli Ambassador to Colombia is reportedly one of the 12 Ambassadors among 32 hostages being held by terrorists in the Dominican Republic's Embassy in Bogota for the last 12 days. According to reports reaching here, Israel sent a representative to Bogota to assist in negotiations. But he was not allowed into Colombia. The government there said it is conducting all the negotiations with the terrorists known as the M-19 group. The Colombian government said all of the countries whose nationals are being held by the terrorists have agreed to a common front against the terrorists. (By David Friedman)

**ISRAELI HOOPSTERS IN MAJOR WIN**

By Haskell Cohen

NEW YORK, March 10 (JTA) -- The Maccabi Tel Aviv basketball team defeated the Real Madrid team of Spain 110-100 in a crucial game last Thursday night in Tel Aviv before a sell-out crowd of 10,000-plus at Yod Eliyahu. The win automatically placed the Israeli team in the European Cup Final Championship series, which will take place March 27 in Berlin against Real Madrid. In order to qualify for the European Cup Championship Game, the Maccabi five had to defeat the visitors from Spain by two points, having lost to them in a previous game in Spain by one tally.

The last time a Maccabi team played on a European Cup Championship final in 1977, they won the title and the excitement in Tel Aviv was so widespread that on that particular evening Premier Yitzhak Rabin tried to announce his resignation but could not get on the air before an appreciable audience and postponed his announcement until the following day.

The heroes of last Thursday evening against Real Madrid were Mickey Berkowitz, who returned to the Maccabi lineup after recovering from an ankle injury, who was the leading scorer in the contest with a total of 29 points, and Lou Silver, former Harvard University star, now a dual citizen, who came up with 27 vital points.

PARIS (JTA) -- A French jury here on March 7 sentenced two Palestinian students to 15 years imprisonment for the murder of Palestine Liberation Organization representative in Paris, Ezzedine Kalak, and one of his aides on Aug. 3, 1978. Abdul Kadir Halam, 27, and Hassan Kayed, 23, told the court they had been entrusted with a mission "to execute the traitor Kalak" by a pro-Iraqi Palestinian organization known as the "Abu Nidal Group."

**BACKGROUND REPORT****PROBING THE U.S. 'FOUL-UP' IN THE UN**

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, March 10 (JTA) — In exploring the Carter Administration's "failure in communications" that was given by the President as the reason for the U.S. approval of the anti-Israel resolution adopted March 1 by the United Nations Security Council, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee appears determined that the State Department provide proof that Jewish settlers in "occupied territories" are "illegal" as the Administration is insisting.

The committee has called on Roberts Owen, the State Department's legal advisor, to provide documentation at its hearing which was due this Thursday but which has now been postponed to early next week. This marks the first time the issue has reached the Senate level of inquiry. Sen. Richard Stone (D., Fla.), chairman of the committee's Middle East subcommittee, was to have conducted the proceedings. Instead, Sen. Frank Church (D., Idaho), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, will preside.

The Administration contends the settlements violate the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949. The Security Council incorporated this position in its resolution and described "Jerusalem" as "occupied territory," stated the convention is "relative to the protection of civilian persons in time of war" and "is applicable to the Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem." Eminent scholars doubt the Administration's view while Israel declares the convention does not apply.

**Question Of Legal Rights**

Even Secretary of State Cyrus Vance himself, who gave the final word to U.S. Ambassador Donald McHenry at the Security Council to approve the resolution, had doubts. Vance said, in 1977, "It is an open question as to who has legal rights to the West Bank." Herbert Hansel, who preceded Owen in the legal post, wrote of the settlements as "probably" illegal.

In describing the U.S. vote for the resolution as "incompetent and hypocritical," Sen. Jack Danforth (R., Mo.) recalled Vance's view and added that "it has been since reaffirmed by legal scholars, including Eugene Rostow, former Undersecretary of State and former Dean of Yale Law School."

When he was Assistant Secretary for the Middle East, Alfred Atherton, now U.S. Ambassador to Egypt, testified before Congress that the question of whether Israel's settlements policy was a violation of international law has not yet been resolved.

Rep. William Lehman (D., Fla.) pointed this out in Congress a week ago. As a practical matter, the Security Council resolution is not binding on Israel since it is not under the mandatory section of the UN Charter. In McHenry's words, in response to a question here last week, the resolution is "advice to Israel." An independent observation is that today's Security Council's "advice" could be made "tomorrow's order with sanctions."

While the State Department would like to bury the Security Council episode, as Deputy Secretary of State Warren Christopher and chief spokesman Hodding Carter have suggested, members of both branches of Congress are not so inclined. Vance, McHenry and Assistant Secretary of State for Near East and South Asian Affairs

Harold Saunders are also being called to testify at the Senate hearing.

The House is considering a "resolution of inquiry," asked by Rep. Elizabeth Holtzman (D., NY) and Rep. Christopher Dodd (D., Conn.) that would have President Carter provide the House "all information and facts" regarding the U.S. decision.

Independent observers believe that ultimately Carter will issue orders that "at least" repudiation of the U.S. vote should become an official document of the United Nations. Thus far, the Administration is noting that "mechanism" does not exist for altering the resolution that includes "Jerusalem" seven times as "occupied territory," speaks of "Palestinian" land and water rights. Thus, officially there is no record at the Security Council that the U.S. vote was a "mistake" and all those representations have U.S. support.

Public criticism of the Carter Administration in the Congress has thus far not been joined by Democratic Party leaders in either House but Rep. William Broomfield (R., Mich.), ranking member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, has spoken out sharply. No voices have been raised in defense of the Administration. Some, in condemning the resolution and the "foul-up," saw Carter's repudiation as "bourgeois."

**Some Strong Attacks**

Perhaps the strongest Senatorial attack came from Danforth. Noting that, although the U.S. has abstained from voting previously on two similar resolutions during the last year, Danforth observed "the President declares the latest vote represented no change in U.S. policy" and Danforth added:

"It is hypocritical to vote for something we have publicly rejected. Further, our action is completely inconsistent with previous American policy. To include Jerusalem as part of occupied 'Palestinian and other Arab territories' as the resolution does, is clearly a departure from the U.S. position which had stated that Jerusalem, both east and west, was to be considered one indivisible entity."

Rep. Lester Wolff (D., NY), challenged the Administration's legal stand. "The areas in question," Wolff said, "are unallocated areas of the British Mandate. Israel is in no way violating any international law in settling on these areas. If anyone has ever been in violation of international law, it would be the Jordanians, who seized lands in 1948. The boundaries set up in the 1949 armistice referred to in UN Security Council Resolution 242 never constituted internationally-recognized borders, and have never been recognized by any nation except Pakistan and the United Kingdom."

Defending Israel's policy as a security measure, Rep. James Blanchard (D., Mich.) observed the Carter Administration's "policy appears to entail a lessening of our commitment to Israel in order to curry favor with neighboring regimes." He said "obviously the Administration will insist that it is maintaining the U.S. commitment for secure borders and for the sovereignty of Israel. We can talk all we want about this commitment and reaffirm our position over and over again but if that commitment does not include the understanding that Israel will need some type of security presence, at certain strategic points on the West Bank, then our words are meaningless."

**JERUSALEM (JTA)** — Terrorist organizations have begun operating a printing house in Lebanon for the purpose of smuggling forged foreign currency into Israel, Maariv reported Monday. A large-scale probe is underway involving the Israel police, Interpol and the FBI.