

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## JEWISH LEADERS ON ALERT FOR NEW NEO-NAZI SURGE IN GREAT BRITAIN

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Oct. 30 (JTA) -- Jewish communal leaders have gone on alert following yesterday's receipt by Labor MP Frank Allaun of a letter bomb. It is feared that this could spark a third wave of such attacks in the past four years.

Although the letter did not explode, and although Allaun is known more for his extreme left-wing political opinions than for his connections with Jewish causes, the incident is regarded as symptomatic of a new surge in neo-Nazi anti-Semitism in Britain.

Much of this activity is fragmented and uncoordinated. The National Front, the leading neo-Nazi group, split into five segments last year and there are probably another five neo-Nazi groups. This means that as a force at the ballot box, the neo-Nazis are further from success than they ever were. Nevertheless, what they lack in cohesion the British Nazis more than make up in virulence.

### Some Of The Neo-Nazi Groups

One of the most sinister group calls itself Column 88. It celebrates Hitler's birthdays, holds para-military summer camps, invites overseas Nazis to its celebrations and repays them by visiting Nazi functions abroad.

Little is known of its leadership or structure but it is believed to recruit the most fanatical and ruthless members of other Nazi groups. Thought to have some arms, it is particularly keen in recruiting people of military background and once tried to form cells in Britain's territorial army.

Another virulent group is the British Movement, the successor of the British National Socialist Movement which was active 20 years ago. Now as large as any of the factions of the fragmented National Front, it is extremely anti-Semitic, distributes most of the anti-Semitic hate propaganda in Britain, including copies of the Protocols of the Elders of Zion, and is believed to be partly financed by an Arab state, probably Libya.

The National Front, which fielded more than 300 candidates in the last general election, broke up because of personal squabbles. The various break-away groups are now trying to unite, together with the British Movement, which scorns the National Front's attempts to deny that it was anti-Semitic.

### NAVON, EGYPT VISIT A MAJOR SUCCESS

By Yitzhak Shargil

CAIRO, Oct. 30 (JTA) -- President Yitzhak Navon ended his five-day visit to Egypt today, hailing it as a success beyond expectations. He offered that assessment in remarks last night to a group of Israeli editors who accompanied him.

Navon said he came to Egypt with the intention of establishing new ties and improving existing ones. In his talks with President Anwar Sadat, he said, several understandings were reached which further those purposes. Navon noted that

both countries have undertaken to establish road transportation to improve trade between them, to increase air service for the benefits of tourists and others and to initiate economic, cultural, professional and youth exchanges.

Navon and his wife Ophira gave a gala dinner last night for Sadat and his wife Jehan at the Abdin Palace where the Israeli guests stayed during their visit to Cairo. The Egyptian President declared that Egypt will always adhere to its commitments and will always be faithful to its friends. He recalled the warmth of the greetings he received on his visits to Israel. Navon expressed his thanks for the hospitality shown him and his wife by the Egyptian people.

### Frank Talk By Khalil

Earlier yesterday, Navon addressed the 60-member Council of the National Democratic Party, Egypt's governing party and was well received by his audience of top political figures. (See yesterday's Bulletin.) Former Prime Minister Mustapha Khalil, chairman of the Council, followed him on the podium with a friendly but frank discourse in which he summarized Jewish history from the Patriarch Abraham to the modern State of Israel.

He did not doubt the right of Israel to exist. It was founded on the basis of a United Nations decision, Khalil said. He credited Egypt with taking the initiative for peace and for agreeing with Israel to try to solve the question of the legitimate rights of the Palestinians. The agreement, he said, was for full autonomy.

According to Khalil, there can be no separation between land and people, a reference to Israel's position that autonomy is for the people of the occupied territories, not for the land. Khalil maintained that a solution of the Palestinian issue is the basis for an overall settlement in the region. Security means security for all sides and there can be no security without peace, he said.

Khalil took issue with Navon's earlier remark that Israelis have been disappointed up to now by the slow pace of normalization. According to the Egyptian official, there is no basis for such feeling in Israel. "We want to promote it (normalization) and we do act toward that end," he said.

### LEADING CLERICS URGE CHRISTIANS TO RALLY BEHIND ISRAEL, JEWISH PEOPLE

NEW YORK, Oct. 30 (JTA) -- Christians throughout the world were urged yesterday by a group of prominent church leaders to rally behind Israel and the Jewish people who are endangered by "ruthless acts of violence."

In a "Statement of Concern," the Catholic, Evangelical and Protestant theologians deplored "the actions of those who try to isolate Israel from the family of nations"; affirmed the United Nations as an international forum but condemned those who "manipulate its agencies for their anti-Israel campaigns"; called for a solution "as just to the Palestinian Arabs as it is to the Israelis" but pointed out that "provocative and destructive" pronouncements and actions by the Palestine Liberation Organization "nullify constructive efforts for peace and reconciliation in the Middle East"; and

declared "our support for a united Jerusalem as the capital of Israel" and commended "the exemplary fashion" in which Israel has assured access to the holy places and protected religious rights.

The statement, representing the "voice of conscience" of "multitudes of Christians," was adopted unanimously at a Religious Convocation in Support of Israel" hosted by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith at its national headquarters and the Halloran House Hotel.

In the principal address to the opening session, Dr. Paul Van Buren, professor of religious studies at Temple University in Philadelphia, declared that support of Israel is "a moral imperative" for Christians. He declared that Christians "are called by God to Israel's support."

He described Israel as "God's experimental workshop" and said this "has been shown to us by God's action in rescuing a particular band of slaves and by bringing them into a particular place and commanding them to live in that land in a particular way."

#### Says Israel Is Symbol Of Hope

The Rev. Edward Flannery, advisory committee member of the Secretariat for Catholic-Jewish Relations of the National Council of Catholic Bishops, said in a "Statement of Hope" that Israel is "a symbol of hope" to Christians and Jews.

He declared that attempts by Arab propaganda and Soviet imperialism to ghettoize Israel and make it a pariah nation must be resisted. He asserted that "it is paramount in the face of this massive opposition which Israel suffers that those who see clearly rally to Israel's side, fight the forces of anti-Zionism and give assurances to the Jewish people that they are not friendless and will not have to go it alone."

— In a similar "Statement of Hope," Dr. Walter Harrelson, professor of Old Testament at the Vanderbilt University School in Tenn., noted that the National Council of Churches is preparing a final policy statement on the Middle East and expressed the "hope that the leadership of the churches of this land will hold fast to their support of the State of Israel, will never waiver in that support, will reaffirm and deepen their commitment of faith in the lengths that bind Judaism and Christianity together."

Participating in a prayer service at the Isaiah Wall opposite the United Nations, Sister Rose Therig, professor of education at Seton Hall University in South Orange, N.J., declared that "with the National Coalition of American Nuns, I strongly support the current status of Jerusalem under Israeli jurisdiction." She added that "I oppose any other form of control."

#### HIGH COURT BEGINS HEARINGS ON APPEALS BY DEPORTED MAYORS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Oct. 31 (JTA) — The Supreme Court opened its hearings today on the appeals by mayors Fähd Kawasme of Hebron and Mohamed Milhim of Halhoul against their deportation. The appellants remained confined to Ramle jail and their attorney, Felicia Langer, argued that the proceedings should not begin while they are absent from the courtroom. It was finally agreed that the two mayors would appear in court at the next session scheduled for Monday.

The courtroom was jammed with the families and friends of the deportees, members of their respective town councils, foreign and Israeli journalists and representatives of the Red Cross. Two Communist MKs, Meir Wilner and Charlie Biton, were also present.

The opening argument by Langer was that the deportation order against the mayors violated Jordanian law which still applies on the West Bank and was contrary to international law. The State, represented by attorney Dorit Beinisch, presented an opinion which the high court has accepted in previous cases.

According to Beinisch, while the Jordanian constitution prohibits the deportation of a citizen, the Supreme Court has held in the past that the emergency regulations of the Palestine Mandate superceded Jordanian law. The regulations, which apply in both Israel and Jordan, permit deportations for security reasons.

Langer countered by noting that in practice, the Jordanian authorities have not deported citizens since they give precedence to their constitution.

#### Mayors End 10-Day Hunger Strike

Kawasme and Milhim ended their 10-day hunger strike yesterday. They said they did so out of respect for the Supreme Court which was about to hear their case. Meanwhile, a wave of demonstrations and stone-throwing incidents on the West Bank in support of the mayors caused the Military Government to issue stern orders to the population to desist. West Bank mayors were warned not to participate in any demonstrations.

#### MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO NEUMANN

NEW YORK, Oct. 30 (JTA) — A memorial tribute to Dr. Emanuel Neumann, the veteran Zionist leader who died in Tel Aviv Sunday at the age of 87, was held at the headquarters of the World Zionist Organization here yesterday. The gathering was sponsored by the WZO-American Section, whose chairman, Charlotte Jacobson, presided, and co-sponsored by the WZO Executive and the Zionist Organization of America of which Neumann served twice as president.

Mrs. Jacobson emphasized Neumann's accomplishments as a scholar, author, educator and mentor of Jewish youth, noting that he founded Young Judea, and was the founder as well of the Theodor Herzl Foundation, the Herzl Press and Midstream magazine. "By these accomplishments, Dr. Neumann became the Zionist patron of Jewish intellect, scholarship, literature and creative cultural expression," she said.

Jacques Torczyner, a member of the WZO Executive and president of the World Union of General Zionists, observed that "Emanuel Neumann was among those remarkably talented leaders of the Zionist movement who would have achieved success in whatever they would have undertaken — as professors, lawyers, etc. But he was one of those whose brilliant organizational and administrative skill and ability as a creative thinker and advocate were all committed to the cause of Zionism for which he sacrificed his entire life."

Ivan Novick, president of the ZOA, extolled Neumann as a "unique leader searching for truth and realism. He played a major role in every aspect of Zionist life and he left an indelible mark on the American and World Zionist movement," Novick said.

Harold Manson, director of the office of academic affairs at the American Friends of Hebrew University, said Neumann's "intellect was joined to a passionate faith in the redemptive role of Zionism. That faith was unshakable." Isador Hamlin, executive vice chairman of the WZO-American Section,

termed Neumann "an activist par excellence" who was a brilliant exponent of the Zionist position.

(Neumann was buried at Kfar Shmaryahu in Israel Monday. Leon Dulzin, chairman of the WZO and Jewish Agency Executives, said the Zionist movement has lost one of its greatest leaders. The funeral services were also attended by Deputy Premier Simcha Ehrlich, Energy Minister Yitzhak Moda'i, former Foreign Minister Abba Eban and other Knesset members and government officials.)

#### AVITAL SHCHARANSKY TO FIRST LADY: "PLEASE DO NOT FORGET MY HUSBAND"

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 30 (JTA) — Avital Shcharansky, whose imprisoned husband Anatoly is recognized throughout the world as a symbol of Soviet Jewry's struggle for aliya and cultural and religious freedom, handed a letter to First Lady Rosalynn Carter in historic Congress Hall Monday night.

According to Al Erlick and David Gross, associate editors of the Jewish Exponent, the dramatic presentation, witnessed by a capacity audience, was the emotional highlight of "Forum on Madrid: Promises and Realities," co-sponsored by the National Conference on Soviet Jewry and the Soviet Jewry Council of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Philadelphia.

The forum was designed to focus attention on the plight of Soviet Jewry prior to the official opening on Nov. 11 of the international conference in Madrid, which is to review compliance with the Helsinki Accords, including "Basket Three," devoted to human rights.

In her letter, which was addressed to President Carter, Mrs. Shcharansky said:

"I am happy for this opportunity to meet your dear wife at Independence Hall, Philadelphia, in the city of freedom, and brotherly love. Very soon the conference in Madrid will be held to review the Helsinki Accords. Please do not forget my husband, Anatoly Shcharansky. You were so kind to speak up on his behalf when he was first arrested, and now, he is still serving his sentence. My husband was suffering with illness and he was in a prison hospital. He is falsely accused simply because he wanted to be reunited with me in Israel. My husband needs your help to be released. Can you increase your support to free my brave husband, Anatoly Shcharansky?"

Mrs. Carter pledged her husband's continuing support for the cause of Soviet Jewry.

#### Not Optimistic About Madrid

A panel discussion, moderated by Abraham Karlikow, director of the Foreign Affairs Department of the American Jewish Committee, attempted to assess the possibilities of the Madrid human rights review procedure.

While the panelists held out little hope that Madrid would materially change Soviet repressive actions, they stressed that activists in the cause of Soviet Jewry must continue to use all available means to keep the issue before the world, thereby maintaining pressure on the Soviets.

At a dinner at the Warwick Hotel following the forum, Mrs. Shcharansky revealed that Soviet authorities had cancelled the upcoming visit to her husband of his mother and brother.

She also told the assembly that his health had improved since his recent hospitalization, but that prison life was taking a continuing toll.

#### Delivers Somber Message

The principal address was delivered by R. Spencer Oliver, deputy chairman of the U.S. delegation to the Madrid review proceedings. His message was a somber one. Soviet authorities, stung by Western criticism which had dominated the five-month review process which ended in Belgrade in March, 1978, were attempting to change the rules under which human rights violations could be discussed. Western diplomats were holding firm at the moment, he said, but he offered little assurance that the Western Europeans would maintain their staunchness as the 11th hour approached.

At issue is the length of time that will be devoted to the subject of human rights and the duration of the meetings, which were opened in Belgrade but which the Soviets want to be limited in Madrid. In Belgrade, for example, Oliver explained, human rights discussions lasted nine weeks. If the Soviets have their way, they would be wrapped up in two and one-half days in Madrid.

Oliver cautioned that Nov. 11 might see only a continuation of preliminary wrangling and intimated that the Madrid conference might never get off the ground. The U.S., he said, was determined that specific violations and specific personalities should be discussed.

#### WALLENBERG HEARINGS SET FOR JAN. 15-17

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 30 (JTA) — A distinguished group of international personalities led by Simon Wiesenthal, will convene formal hearings in Stockholm, Sweden Jan. 15-17 to hear testimony as to the fate of the lost hero of the Holocaust, Raoul Wallenberg, it was announced by Rabbi Abraham Cooper, assistant to the Dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies at Yeshiva University of Los Angeles, upon his return from consultations with the Wallenberg family in Stockholm.

The hearings will be coordinated with the International Sakharov Committee based in Copenhagen. The dates of the hearings coincide with the 36th anniversary of Wallenberg's disappearance in Budapest, Hungary.

Wallenberg, a Swedish Gentile, risked his life to save more than 30,000 Jews in Budapest during the closing months of World War II. He was kidnapped and incarcerated by the Soviets in 1945. The Russians at first denied any knowledge of Wallenberg. Later, they changed their story to claim that he died in prison in 1947. However, there have been repeated reports from eye witnesses that Wallenberg was alive many years after that date.

"It is hoped that this hearing will focus world opinion to the plight of this great humanitarian and encourage Soviet cooperation," Cooper explained. "In view of the recent spate of neo-Nazi activity in Europe and elsewhere, the deeds and legacy of Raoul Wallenberg have never been more relevant for humanity than they are in 1980. Many young people in France, Italy, Belgium, England, South America and the United States know nothing of that tragic era and are increasingly being exposed to the haters of this generation."

Cooper also announced that the Wallenberg family will attend the international conference in Madrid, which is to review compliance with the Helsinki Accords, to press for the inclusion of Raoul's fate in that international forum.

## NEARLY \$11.8 MILLION IN PLEDGES FOR 1981 ANNOUNCED BY UJA PRESIDENT'S MISSION TO ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Oct. 30 (JTA) — Campaign pledges of \$11,787,250 for 1981 were received from participants on the Oct. 5-10 United Jewish Appeal President's Mission to Israel, according to audited results reported here today. This is a 37 percent increase over 1980 pledges by the same contributors. An additional \$2,536,950 for Project Renewal was pledged at the mission's state dinner with Premier Menachem Begin in the Knesset.

Consisting of 422 men and women from American Jewish communities throughout the U.S., the \$10,000 minimum gift mission was the largest major gifts leadership group ever brought to Israel by the UJA. It was led by UJA national vice chairman Joel Breslau of Washington, D.C.

Begin applauded the evening's expression of leadership support for ongoing humanitarian programs and for Project Renewal as clear and strong evidence of American Jewish solidarity with Israel's people.

Breslau and the mission's team of top-ranking national and regional officers pointed out that the fundraising results continued an unbroken sequence of UJA national events which have resulted in increased campaign giving of 35-40 percent. This indicates that the national goal is achievable, they stated. The UJA is seeking a 1981 goal of \$635 million in the regular 1981 campaign, plus a minimum of \$54 million for Project Renewal.

### Comprehensive Four-Day Program

The state dinner ended a comprehensive four-day program which took participants into 23 Project Renewal neighborhoods to meet the residents, developed dialogues with pioneering families engaged in repopulating the Galilee and in resettling in the Negev under the terms of the Israel-Egypt peace treaty; and surveyed a wide range of Jewish Agency and Joint Distribution Committee programs aiding the young, the elderly, the handicapped and new immigrants.

The concentrated President's Mission itinerary also included a welcoming address by Israel's President Yitzhak Navon, the mission's host; background briefings on military security by general officers of the Israel Air Force and the northern and southern commands; presentations on the full spectrum of Jewish Agency programs by chairman Leon Dulzin, treasurer Akiva Lewinsky, rural settlement department head Dr. Ransel Weitz and director-general Shimon Ravid; and Project Renewal director Yehiel Admoni.

In an innovative first-night series of seven dinner meetings at the homes of outstanding Israeli personalities, groups of mission members received an overview of Israel's present and future status which strongly combined realism with expressions of faith and optimism. Hosts for the open dialogues included Knesset members, Mayor Shlomo Lahat of Tel Aviv, and Avraham Shavit, president of the Israel Manufacturers' Association.

During deeply emotional visits to Jerusalem, the full delegation of American Jewish leadership voiced allegiance to the united, historic capital of the Jewish people in a candlelit ceremony at the Western Wall, paid tribute to

those who have fallen in Israel's five wars since independence, and honored the heroes and martyrs of the Holocaust and of Jewish resistance in a Yizkor service at Yad Vashem.

### JEWISH COMMUNITY IN JAPAN

TOKYO, Oct. 30 (JTA) — The Jewish community of Japan, consisting of about 110 families, recently dedicated its new communal center and synagogue here. The inaugural festivities included a ribbon-cutting ceremony presided over by Walter Citron, president of the community, the installation of Rabbi Jonathan Maltzman as spiritual leader and a dinner dance attended by the entire community and Japanese notables. It received extensive coverage in the Japanese press.

The center occupies a three-story complex which contains the synagogue, a religious school for children 4-13, the largest Judaica collection in the Far East and social and athletic facilities. It was financed by the sale of land purchased by the Jewish community 29 years ago. It occupies the portion of that land which was retained.

The synagogue is the second Jewish house of worship in Japan — a small synagogue exists in Kobe — and due to the heterogeneous nature of the Jewish community here, it will be neither Reform, Conservative nor Orthodox. Maltzman is a graduate of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, the rabbinical training school of Conservative Judaism in the U.S.

About half the members of the community are American citizens, one-third are Israelis and the rest represent other nationalities. Most of them are businessmen engaged in foreign trade, banking, finance, transportation and insurance. There are also doctors, journalists, graduate students and musicians.

### JEWISH TOURISM FROM U.S. WANING

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Oct. 30 (JTA) — There is a definite and downward trend in Jewish tourism figures from the United States to Israel over the past two years, a senior Israeli official revealed Wednesday. Amnon Altman, head of the government's Tourism Authority, put part of the blame on American Jewish organizations which, he said, were "not stressing Israel as a tourism destination" for their members.

Nor were the major Jewish organizations holding a sufficient or satisfactory number of their assemblies and conferences in Israel, Altman asserted. He said there were some exceptions, but overall he could say that these organizations seemed not to attach enough "consciousness" to the need to encourage American Jews to visit Israel.

In addition, Altman said, Jewish tourism from the U.S. to Israel suffered from the general current decline in Israel's public standing in the U.S. "I am not breaking any new ground by pointing this out," Altman told reporters. "It has been widely reported in our own press." Israel's political image problems were directly linked to the tourism statistics, he said.

A third important factor was economic, Altman observed. American tourism to Europe (general tourism) was down because of general economic reasons — and Jewish tourism to Israel was bound to be affected in the same way.

The statistics show that Jewish tourism accounts for 55 percent of the total volume of American tourism to Israel. But the rate of decline these past two years has been marked and steady, Altman said. Israel for its part would instruct its tourism officials in the U.S. to redouble their efforts to "sell" Israel packages, he said.