

# JTA daily news bulletin

Contents copyright. Reproduction only by previous arrangement.

Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency / 165 West 46th Street / New York, New York 10036

Vol. LVIII - 63rd Year

Wednesday, November 26, 1980

No. 226

## TERRORIST KILLS ONE, WOUNDS TWO AT ISRAEL TRAVEL AGENCY IN PARIS

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Nov. 25 (JTA) — A lone gunman this afternoon shot in cold blood three people working in a Paris travel agency which specializes in trips to Israel. The agency's manager, 53-year-old Edwin Douek was shot in the head and his condition is described as serious. His wife, Michele, 29, was killed, and a clerk was slightly wounded. Police have no clues as to the identity of the gunman, but eyewitnesses present at the time of the attack said the assailant appeared to be an Arab.

The man, who used a submachinegun, just walked into the small travel agency, It-Tours, which describes itself as "Israel's specialized travel agency in Paris," without saying a word and opened fire with his weapon which he had concealed under his rain coat. Witnesses said he made no attempt to take any money or valuables and, according to them, the attack appeared to be motivated only by the agency's specialized work with Israel.

## THREE ULTRA-CONSERVATIVE LEADERS URGE REAGAN TO IMPLEMENT HIS PRO- ISRAEL ELECTION CAMPAIGN POSITION

ARLINGTON, Va., Nov. 25 (JTA) — The leaders of three ultra-conservative groups have urged President-elect Ronald Reagan to implement the pro-Israel positions he took during the election campaign "through your appointments in the foreign affairs and defense fields."

The mailgram message, addressed to Reagan at his Washington, D. C. headquarters, a copy of which was sent to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in New York City, was signed by Jerry Falwell, president of the Moral Majority, Edward McAteer, president of the Religious Roundtable based in Arlington, and Paul Weyrich, president of the Committee for the Survival of a Free Congress. The three groups supported Reagan's election.

Their message affirmed "the importance of increased understanding and action among Bible-believing Christians and Jews for a return to morality and enlightened national policies in America." It observed in that context that "From our religious, moral and strategic perspective, Israel supremely represents our values and hopes for security and peace in the Middle East."

The signatories reminded Reagan that he has "on many occasions publicly recognized the importance of Israel to our national security." They expressed concern, however, that "Unfortunately, many of those vying for... positions (in foreign affairs and defense) hold views which are incompatible with your policy perspective on Israel. Nevertheless, we have full confidence and trust that you will exercise good judgement regarding such critical appointments."

The Moral Majority and other rightwing evangelical groups that supported Reagan are known to be upset that he is reportedly considering several prominent Republicans who served

in the Nixon and Ford Administrations for key positions, including those of Secretary of State, Defense Secretary and Secretary of the Treasury.

## WEST EUROPEAN NATIONS TO POSTPONE NEW MIDEAST DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVE UNTIL AFTER REAGAN'S INAUGURATION

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Nov. 25 (JTA) — Western European nations reportedly will postpone a new Middle East diplomatic initiative until after President-elect Reagan's inauguration Jan. 20. The heads of governments comprising the nine-member European Economic Community (EEC), who are due to meet in Luxembourg Dec. 1-2 to consider the Mideast, have reportedly reached a new consensus.

According to diplomatic sources in Brussels, President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing of France is the only participant still pressing for joint European action in the Mideast by early next year. The EEC Foreign Ministers, who conferred yesterday in Luxembourg in preparation for the summit meeting next month, reportedly decided to recommend the postponement of any European initiative for the time being.

## Continued Exploratory Talks Recommended

— The ministers, who studied the report prepared by their outgoing chairman, Foreign Minister Gaston Thorn of Luxembourg, also recommended that the new chairman, Foreign Minister Chrisoph van der Laan of Holland, should continue exploratory talks with Israel, the Arab countries and the Palestine Liberation Organization, and report back some time next year.

EEC sources said that although the summit conference will also study developments in East Europe, Afghanistan and East-West relations, the main item on its agenda will be the Mideast and the followup to last summer's EEC Venice declaration which called for the PLO's inclusion in the Mideast peace process.

Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir of Israel is due to meet with Foreign Minister Jean-François Poncet of France Nov. 30. Shamir is going to Paris to address United Jewish Appeal meetings and to strengthen the ties between Israel and France's 700,000 Jews. He will nonetheless meet Poncet at the Quai d'Orsay. Israeli sources here said that Shamir will ask France to drop plans for a European initiative and to coordinate any further West European actions with the United States.

## 52 MKS ENDORSE BILL CALLING FOR EARLY ELECTIONS AND FOR THE DISSOLUTION OF THE KNESSET

By Gil Sedon

JERUSALEM, Nov. 25 (JTA) — The Labor Alignment said yesterday that 52 Knesset members have endorsed a bill calling for the dissolution of the Knesset and early elections. According to Moshe Shahal, chairman of the Labor Alignment caucus, two more MKs have promised their support bringing the measure to within seven votes of passage.

Shahal said the signatories represent the full political spectrum in parliament. They include, in addition to Labor, the Communist Party, Shinui, Sheli, Civil Rights Movement and the Independent Liberals, all parties at various distances to the left

of center and the rightwing Tehiya. In addition, the bill was endorsed by former Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and former Defense Minister Ezer Weizman, both now sitting in parliament as independents.

The same opposition bloc failed by only three votes last Wednesday to topple Premier Menachem Begin's coalition government on a no-confidence motion aimed at the government's economic policies. The Labor Alignment intends to present another no-confidence motion next month if the consumer price index for November shows an increase of or around 11 percent as it did in October.

#### PALESTINE WEEK TO BE CELEBRATED AT THE UN BEGINNING FRIDAY

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Nov. 25 (JTA) -- As a result of the continuing war between Iraq and Iran and the change of administrations in Washington, Palestine Week here, which will begin with the marking of Palestine Day this Friday, is likely to be subdued, if not overlooked altogether, according to diplomats and observers here.

"This is very bad timing for a Palestine celebration," one diplomat opined. "For one thing, the prestige of the Palestine Liberation Organization has reached a new nadir as a result of the war between two Moslem countries that have adopted the Palestinian cause. For another, the Arab world is presently divided, as it has not been for a long time. The Arab states are in a state of confusion and disarray and the uncertainties concerning a new American Administration and its Mideast policy are only contributing to the confusion."

This is the third consecutive year that the United Nations will be celebrating Palestine Week. The celebration of the week starts each year on Nov. 29, which is officially designated by the UN as Palestine Day. But since Nov. 29 this year is Saturday, the celebration was moved one day ahead to Friday, Nov. 28. The Nov. 29 date was selected by the PLO because that was the day in 1947 when the UN voted to partition Palestine.

#### Debate on Palestinian Question Next Week

While the events Friday will be ceremonial including a special meeting of the General Assembly with speeches by Secretary General Kurt Waldheim and other UN officials; the opening of an exhibition depicting achievements and aspirations of the Palestinian people; and the screening of a film which was shown last year, "Palestinians Do Have Rights" -- Palestine Week will continue next Monday with the General Assembly opening its annual debate on the "Palestinian Question."

During the five-day debate, a litany of anti-Israel accusations is expected to be expressed by the majority of Third World and Communist nations delegates.

Nachman Shai, Israel's spokesman at the UN, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that Israel will participate in the debate, underscoring its position that a solution in the Mideast can be reached within the framework of Security Council Resolution 242 and the Camp David accords.

The Arab-Israeli conflict will continue to dominate the General Assembly's agenda for one week after the Palestinian debate concludes with a debate on the "Question of the Mideast."

#### BEGIN SUPPORTS EVRON

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Nov. 25 (JTA) -- Premier Menachem Begin went out of his way this week to praise Israel's Ambassador to Washington, Ephraim Evron, apparently to squelch persistent rumors that Evron may be replaced. Reporting to the cabinet last Sunday on his recent private visit to the U.S., Begin noted that Ambassador Evron had been fulfilling his duties entirely satisfactorily.

There was criticism of Evron in some political quarters here following Ronald Reagan's election victory. He was accused of having been too deeply identified with the Carter camp and having failed to forge links with the men of the new administration. Evron was also faulted for his handling of the delicate--and unproductive--contacts with Reagan's staff over the possibility of a Reagan-Begin meeting when the Premier was in the U.S. early this month.

Begin told the Cabinet that he had not in fact sought a meeting with Reagan and understood the President-elect's special situation. Nor was Israel or he personally in any way offended by the fact that Reagan did meet with West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, Begin said.

Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir took the opportunity to re-state his own earlier support of Evron. Shamir repeated to the Cabinet what he had said two weeks ago -- that Evron acted properly and efficaciously during the pre-election period, maintaining close contacts with the incumbent administration and trying at the same time in an unofficial way to form ties with the Reagan camp.

Officials here were anxious to publicize Begin's and Shamir's remarks regarding Evron because the rumors about him, especially in some American Jewish quarters, apparently were not laid to rest by earlier denials from Jerusalem.

#### EGYPTIAN BUSINESS CONFERENCE IN GENEVA IS ABRUPTLY CANCELLED

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, Nov. 25 (JTA) -- An Egyptian business conference that was to have opened here today, was abruptly cancelled by Farouk al-Thebawi, the Egyptian businessman who promoted it, apparently because he did not have the backing of the Egyptian authorities he had claimed.

The gathering, known as "Congress Egypt '80," was described by Thebawi as Egypt's answer to the Arab boycott of his country for its peace treaty with Israel. It was supposed to be attended by Knesset members, members of the Egyptian Parliament and Cabinet and by some 200 businessmen and investors from European countries, South Africa and the U.S. in addition to Israeli and Egyptian businessmen.

The project had the support of the Jewish community here and Nissim Gaon, a Geneva-based millionaire who heads the World Federation of Sephardic Jews, was on the board of directors. But the enterprise began to sour several days ago when Gaon informed the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he was withdrawing from the "Congress." He said his contacts in Egypt had warned him that Thebawi had no official backing in Cairo.

The Israeli Foreign Ministry, Bank Leumi and other Israeli institutions had intended to send delegates but were awaiting official confirmation of Egyptian participation. According to Thebawi, he sent his

lawyer to Cairo to obtain confirmation but found out that all Egyptians involved had received official instructions not to go to Geneva.

La Tribune Geneve suggested today that the Egyptians backed away because they did not want to meet openly with Israelis in Geneva on the eve of the Arab summit meeting in Amman. It was unclear whether the "Congress" was aborted for political reasons or because the organizers were amateurs who handled it badly.

### LINOWITZ SAYS REAGAN COMMITTED TO U.S. ROLE IN MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS

NEW YORK, Nov. 25 (JTA) — Sol Linowitz, President Carter's special envoy to the Middle East, told the American Jewish Congress tonight that President-elect Reagan and Carter were "both committed to United States participation in the Middle East peace process."

In remarks prepared for delivery to the annual Stephen Wise Awards dinner of the American Jewish Congress at the New York Hilton, Linowitz said the President and his successor both recognized that "this is not a goal which is partisan or political in nature."

"Rather," he added, "they are agreed that it is a right and proper objective for a nation which seeks, above all else, to help usher in a world at peace and wants to play its proper role in advancing the prospects for that peace."

Linowitz continued: "So today we are as one — Republicans and Democrats alike — in our determination that the United States must play its proper part to help make Middle East peace a reality."

Linowitz was the principal speaker at the dinner attended by 500 people, at which Thomas Murphy, chairman of the board of directors of General Motors, and Marshal Cogan, board chairman of General Felt Industries, received the Congress' Stephen S. Wise Awards. Murphy was cited for "distinguished leadership in the cause of interfaith understanding." Cogan was honored for "dedication and commitment to human rights and social justice."

### Differences Have Been Narrowed

Linowitz said Israel and Egypt have narrowed their differences over the powers and responsibilities that would accrue to the self-governing authority and "have also made substantial progress in agreeing on the modalities — the mechanism" for free elections by the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza.

According to the envoy, this brings the two sides "down to the most difficult, emotion-laden issues.... But he believed that Israel and Egypt 'clearly recognize' that self-government 'must be credible and viable' and 'it must have real power over the lives of the people on the West Bank and Gaza' and 'offer them meaningful participation.' At the same time, he said, 'both sides agree that Israel's security must be fully preserved and protected' and 'the dangers of attack, terrorism and disorder must be carefully guarded against.'"

### U.S. AIR FORCE OFFICIAL SAYS U.S. PERMANENTLY COMMITTED TO ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Nov. 25 (JTA) — U.S. Air Force Undersecretary Antonio Handler Chayes declared here that the construction by the United States of Israel Air Force bases in the Negev to

replace the bases Israel gave up in the Sinai as part of the Camp David accords is a "tangible sign of the permanence of the U.S. commitment to Israel's security."

Chayes spoke to some 700 persons at the annual American Mizrahi Women Scholarship Fund Dinner at the Waldorf Astoria last Sunday night at which she received the AMW's Distinguished Public Service Award for her work in relocating the gior bases. "It is fitting that a national organization of American Jewish women should present this award to a distinguished American Jewish woman who has lent her talents to the cause of peace for both the U.S. and Israel," AMW president Roselle Silberstein said in presenting the award.

Chayes said the U.S. commitment to Israel was dramatically brought home to her last summer when the first of the U.S.-made F-16 jet fighters arrived in Israel. "Their arrival, after a non-stop 12-hour flight from the United States was more than just a visually impressive event... more significantly, it was a symbol that U.S. support is only a few hours flight away."

### DAYAN: REAGAN ADMINISTRATION WILL SUPPORT ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Nov. 25 (JTA) — Former Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan of Israel, in his recent tour in the United States on behalf of the United Jewish Appeal, told his audiences that he is confident the Reagan Administration would support Israel within the context of American interests.

Responding to a question at one of the meetings about the possibility of "Reagan selling Israel down the river," Dayan said: "Israel knows how to swim, having learned in 1948, and we have been swimming by ourselves ever since." At several press conferences he also called strongly for a U.S. government military-political "red line" in the Mideast, beyond which it would not allow its interests in the area to be jeopardized.

Dayan's first visit on arrival earlier this month was to the hospital bedside of his long-time friend Irving Bernstein, UJA executive vice chairman, who has since been recovering at home from a mild heart attack and is expected to resume his duties soon after Thanksgiving.

TEL AVIV, (JTA) — An extraordinarily heavy turnout marked the Labor Party elections Tuesday. Four hours before the polls closed, more than 45 percent of the 260,000 eligible voters had cast their ballots for delegates to the party's convention early next year. The intense rivalry between Labor Party chairman Shimon Peres and former Premier Yitzhak Rabin was believed responsible for the turnout. The results will be known in one or two days but will not be made public for several weeks.

JERUSALEM, (JTA) — Leon Dulzin, chairman of the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organization Executives, issued an impassioned appeal to "enlightened world opinion" on behalf of imprisoned Soviet Jewish scientist and refusenik Dr. Victor Brailovsky. Dulzin said that Brailovsky's imprisonment on a charge of "slandering the state" represented an intensification by Soviet authorities' battle against the emigration movement inside the USSR and was intended to serve as a warning to other activists. Brailovsky's case is to be one of those raised by world Jewish leaders at the Helsinki accords' review conference in Madrid in an effort to stir Western public opinion regarding the plight of Soviet Prisoners of Conscience.

## **SPECIAL BACKGROUND REPORT** **THE NEW CHRISTIAN RIGHT**

By Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum

(Third Part Of A Three Part Series)

NEW YORK, Nov. 25 (JTA) — There are additional concerns that require careful analysis and scrutiny by political leaders and the American people.

The campaign by some members of the "New Christian Right" to elect "born-again Christians" only to public office is anathema to everything American democracy stands for. It violates Article 6 of the United States Constitution which forbids the exercise of "a religious test" for any citizen running for public office. The American people must repudiate that anti-democratic practice. Candidates must continue to be judged on the basis of their competence, their integrity, and their commitment to the common welfare. That is the American way.

The most effective critique of "single politics" campaigns and candidates is provided by the leading Evangelical journal, "Christianity Today" (Sept. 19, 1980):

"Moral Majority and Christian Voice appear to emphasize the first three principles of Evangelicals for Social Action more than the others (that is, the family; every human life is sacred (abortion); religious and political freedom are God-given inalienable rights). The Bible deals with all of them. In fact, probably more space in the Bible is devoted to calls for justice and the care for the poor than to the fact that human life is sacred, though none can deny that both are Biblical mandates.

"The concerns of the religious lobbies will appeal to a broader range of Christians to the extent that they emphasize these other equally biblical principles of justice, peace, stewardship of our resources, and care for the poor, as well as profamily and prolife issues. It is a case of 'these ye ought to do but not to leave the others undone.' Too narrow a front in battling for a moral crusade, or for a truly biblical involvement in politics, could be disastrous. It could lead to the election of a moron who holds the right view on abortion."

### An Antiquated Mentality

Many of us are concerned about the militant apocalyptic style of some "New Christian Right" spokesmen. This mentality dates back to antiquity when in every century where there was vast social disarray and disorientation, there emerged a widespread yearning among the masses, especially the poor and disinherited, for a Messianic savior joined by an Emperor of the Last Days who would relieve society of its oppression and moral decay and usher in the Millenium "in which the world would be inhabited by a humanity at once perfectly good and perfectly happy" (Norman Cohn, "The Pursuit of the Millenium").

This revolutionary apocalypse was dominated by eschatological phantasies of a new Paradise on earth, a world purged of suffering and sin, a Kingdom of Saints. A prodigious final struggle would take place between the hosts of Christ and the hosts of the Antichrist through which history would attain its fulfillment and justification.

Before the Millenium could dawn, however, misbelief had to be eliminated as a prelude to realizing the ideal of a wholly Christian world. In the eyes of the crusading Messianic hordes (which began to form in the Middle Ages), the smiting of the Moslems and the Jews was to be the first act in that final drama which was to culminate in the smiting of the Prince of Evil (Satan, the Devil).

### Too Much Demonology

Much of the present "New Right" public discussion of issues seems to be characterized by that traditional scenario of political conflict between "the children of light" and the "children of darkness." There is too much demonology in the current discussion which appears to consign political candidates to being demolished as "satanic" — the moral hit lists with "zero ratings," "secular humanists standing at the side of satan." Reasoned, civil debate in an open democracy requires another, higher order of discourse.

One has a sense that some "New Right" advocates perceive America as if it were a vast camp revival meeting whose characteristic method was to plunge into anguish the sinner over the state of his soul, then bring about a confession of faith by oversimplifying the decision as a choice between a clear good and an obvious evil. The Civil War was rendered all the more intransigent and destructive by each side claiming that God was on their side, and by portraying the other side as "infidel" and "atheist."

A mature America deserves a far more balanced and thoughtful method to analyze its problems and to formulate its responses; anything less than that is an insult to the intelligence of the American people.

### FIRST JEW ELECTED LT. GOV. OF MO.

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 25 (JTA) — Kenneth Rothman, the first Jew to be elected Lieutenant Governor of Missouri, said here that "Only in a democracy such as the United States could someone of my social, economic and ethnic background rise to a position of such stature."

Rothman, a 45-year-old Democrat who was elected Speaker of the Missouri House of Representatives in 1977, is the grandson of Jewish immigrants from Europe. He decisively defeated his Republican opponent Roy Blunt, by a vote of 1,050,000-792,000 in the November 4 elections. He won St. Louis County by an 80,000 vote margin, running far ahead of the Democratic ticket. President Carter lost the county as did Sen. Thomas Eagleton although he won reelection.

Rothman was born in St. Louis and was educated at local grade schools and high schools and at Washington University where he received his law degree. He was first elected to the Missouri House of Representatives in 1962 at the age of 26, one of the state's youngest legislators. He and his wife, Geri, and their four children are affiliated with the United Hebrew Congregation.

MONTREAL, (JTA) — Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau said in Cairo last Saturday that Canada will continue to oppose Israeli settlement of the West Bank and the annexation of Jerusalem and will support the United Nations call for Israel's withdrawal from the occupied territories. Trudeau also said that Canada would not recognize the Palestine Liberation Organization as long as that might jeopardize Canada's friendship with Israel. While in Egypt, Trudeau had a 90-minute meeting with President Anwar Sadat, the first between the two officials.