

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## KISSINGER SUGGESTS A TWO-PRONGED APPROACH TO ADVANCE THE MOVEMENT TOWARD A PEACE AGREEMENT

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 4 (JTA) — Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger suggested here today that President-elect Reagan should meet separately with Premier Menachem Begin and President Anwar Sadat after he takes office, to be followed possibly by a tripartite summit meeting. He said he was pleased with the progress of Israeli-Egyptian negotiations to date but thought the meetings he outlined would help advance the movement toward an agreement.

Kissinger arrived here last night after several days in Egypt and an unscheduled side trip to Somalia. He insisted that his current trip to the Middle East is private and unofficial.

"I am here as a private citizen, but I will certainly talk to President-elect Reagan and with Secretary of State-designate (Alexander) Haig about my impressions of this visit," he said. Kissinger is travelling with his wife, Nancy, and with William Paley, president of the Columbia Broadcasting System (CBS) whose private plane they are using.

### Not Seeking to Replace Linowitz

The former Secretary of State scotched speculation that he might replace Sol Linowitz as the special Presidential envoy to the Middle East after Reagan is inaugurated Jan. 20. He said he was not looking for a job in the new Administration and did not want to become involved in day-to-day negotiations. "But I have said I would be ready to undertake special missions at critical periods, if such will occur in the Middle East, which is difficult to predict at this moment," he said.

Last month, Richard Allen, Reagan's appointee to head the National Security Council, said that Kissinger would serve as a special advisor to the President on foreign policy matters and that his duties might include missions abroad. Kissinger's present trip is said to have been undertaken with Reagan's approval.

### Might Suggest U.S. Presence

He is scheduled to meet with Begin this evening and will dine later at the home of Israel's former Ambassador to the U.S. Simcha Diniz. This morning, the American diplomat met with senior army officers and flew to the Etzion air base in Sinai which Israel will turn over to Egypt next year. Observers suggested that he visited the air base in order to formulate proposals to Reagan for eventual American use of the facility, said to be one of the most sophisticated in the world and certainly in the region.

Israel is known to favor such a strong American presence just across its border but Sadat has refused to entertain such suggestions, at least until after the entire Sinai is returned to Egypt. Speaking of the Israeli-Egyptian autonomy negotiations, Kissinger said on his arrival last night:

"Whenever we get discouraged, we should remember what has been achieved through several

American Administrations and through several Israeli Administrations. I met many Israeli tourists in Cairo which would have been inconceivable eight years ago when I visited there." Kissinger added, "So this is a difficult period, but also a hopeful one."

## CHURCH URGES REAGAN TO MAKE CLEAR HIS POSITION ON THE MIDEAST

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 4 (JTA) — Sen. Frank Church (D., Idaho), outgoing chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, urged President-elect Reagan today to make very clear his position on the Middle East, especially his support of Israel, in order to blunt the thrust of contrary views being advanced by some of his aides and officials of the new Administration.

Church, who lost his re-election bid last November, arrived in Israel Friday on a private visit. He said on a radio interview that he did not doubt the sincerity of Reagan's pro-Israel statements.

"What concerns me are those other forces which are at work — those who say on the one hand that our oil problems would be solved if the Israelis were not so intransigent and others who say that if the Israelis would cooperate we could get peace in the Middle East and that would lead to stability and an assured supply of oil," Church said. "These people have increased their numbers. Their influence in Congress is larger than before."

### Elements of Suggested Blue Print

According to Church, "The new President would be well advised to lay out the blueprint of his own policy at the outset, making it clear, while his mandate is strong, to those of his own party who entertain those other ideas which they like to call a more even-handed American policy, that if they want to press for that cause they will have him to deal with; that his policy is one of full commitment on the part of the U.S. to the maintenance of a free and independent Israel and that we will not permit the Arab countries to use the oil weapon for the purpose of softening our ties with Israel or forming an alliance of convenience with the Arab states."

Church, a strong friend of Israel, will be replaced as chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee by Sen. Charles Percy (R. Ill.) who has publicly advocated a Palestinian state.

## FRENCH JEWS ARE ACCUSED OF EXAGGERATING RECENT INCIDENTS OF ANTI-SEMITISM IN FRANCE

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Jan. 4 (JTA) — The Jews of France were accused today of having "exaggerated" recent anti-Semitic incidents in France and of "exasperating" their non-Jewish fellow citizens. The accusation appeared in a front page article in Le Monde written by Jean-Marie Paupert, a noted writer and philosopher, who stressed that there are Jews in his family and that he cannot therefore be suspected of harboring anti-Semitic sentiments.

Paupert stressed in his article that there can be no comparison between what happened at the time of

the bombing of the Rue Copernic synagogue in Paris last October and the situation which existed in Germany in the 1930s. Such a comparison, he wrote, would seem to indicate that within Jews, "hidden somewhere at the bottom of your souls is a masochistic streak which tries to discern anti-Semitism in order to be miserable and unhappy and to shout for justice."

The article, which appeared as a "private opinion" column but which was prominently displayed on the paper's front page, denounced the Jewish Defense Organization, a group of young Jewish militants which became prominent after the synagogue bombing by striking back against those whom they identified as neo-Nazis. Pauper wrote that members of the organization "have behaved like vulgar Nazi hooligans, using threats, libel, sticks and knives." He added that "I would have been an anti-Semite if I would not have expressed myself clearly on this subject."

Sources close to Le Monde told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that they received "countless" pleas from readers and contributing editors to express their exasperation with the Jewish community's reactions following the synagogue bombing. The sources said they finally gave in to the demands, but in the form of a "personal opinion" column which does not necessarily reflect the paper's own views.

### ISRAEL DENIES MUTILATING BODIES OF 5 ARAB TERRORISTS

TEL AVIV, Jan. 4 (JTA) — Israel has firmly denied a report by the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) that Israeli soldiers had mutilated the bodies of five Arab terrorists killed in a clash last week. The UNIFIL report said Israeli soldiers had burned, booby-trapped and blown-up the bodies of five terrorists they killed on Dec. 25.

"We do not mutilate bodies," the Israeli army spokesman said. He said that Israel reported on Dec. 25 that the five terrorists had been discovered by a routine patrol just across the Lebanese border and killed in a clash.

The terrorists had been holed up in a cave and grenades had been thrown in by the Israeli troops, setting off explosives carried by the terrorists, the spokesman said.

He said that the nearby villagers had refused to collect the bodies when asked to do so by the troops. The troops, following normal practice, then took the bodies back to Israel for examination, possible identification and burial, the spokesman said.

Meanwhile, UNIFIL Commander Immanuel Erskine has asked to meet with Israel's Chief of Staff Gen. Rafael Eitan to clear up the matter, UN officials told reporters today at a press conference in Metullah.

### CABINET APPROVES APPOINTMENT OF NEW POLICE DEPARTMENT CHIEF

By Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, Jan. 4 (JTA) — The Cabinet today approved the appointment of Arye Invitzan, a 32-year veteran of the police force, as the new Inspector General of Police to replace Herzl Shafir who was fired by Interior Minister Yosef Burg last Thursday.

The Cabinet vote, with one abstention — by Finance Minister Yigal Hurwitz — was seen as an expression of support for Burg. He has come under heavy fire for allegedly having asked Shafir a month ago to postpone an investigation

of possible criminal activity within the Interior Ministry until after the Knesset elections scheduled for November, 1981.

Shafir was dismissed after he admitted to a Knesset committee last week that the police had deliberately leaked false information to the press on the bribe-taking case against Religious Affairs Minister Aharon Abu-Hatzeira, a member of Burg's National Religious Party (NRP).

### Hints of Possible Scandal

Hints of a possible scandal and cover-up within the Interior Ministry came to light after MK Yossi Sarid of the opposition Labor Party sent a letter to Attorney General Yitzhak Zamir urging him to investigate the matter.

Sarid's letter was based on off-the-record statements made by Shafir to a group of newspaper editors. He said he had written a memorandum concerning Burg's alleged intervention in the police investigation of his ministry and handed it to a prominent personality for safe-keeping. He would not identify the person but said the memo was code-named "Apricot."

When asked about the allegations at a press conference last Friday, Shafir replied, "no comment." However, he attacked Burg for general interference with police work and accused him of trying to intervene in favor of yeshiva students who were jailed for certain offenses.

### Denies Any Cover-Up

Burg conducted several press and radio interviews of his own over the weekend. He did not deny that he had proposed to Shafir that he delay an investigation of the Interior Ministry until after the elections or that he had asked to see the police evidence. But Burg insisted that this was not a cover-up because the matter had been discussed by the Knesset State Control Committee and was therefore out in the open. He said he wanted the investigation postponed because this is an election year and he feared the police would become a tool in the hands of politicians.

Burg also accused Shafir of threatening to blackmail him if he was dismissed. He quoted the Inspector General as warning, "Dr. Burg, I advise you not to fire me. It will be bad for the government, for your party and for you personally." Shafir denied that version of his conversation with Burg. He said he had merely told the Minister that his dismissal would be harmful to the police.

### Shafir's View of Dismissal

Shafir said on radio interviews over the weekend that he did not think the Abu-Hatzeira case was the reason he was fired. He claimed that Burg knew about police leaks to the press in the Abu-Hatzeira case and lied when he told reporters last week that he was unaware that "such things go on."

Shafir blamed Burg for the deteriorating relations between the Interior Ministry and the police which is subject to ministry control. He charged constant interference on political levels with the day-to-day functioning of the police. "I don't mind dealing every now and then with the specific problems of prisoners who were yeshiva students, but when this becomes a system I don't accept it," Shafir said.

Burg denied that he ever intervened in favor of prisoners who were Orthodox Jews. But he said he was proud that he did intervene in cases of prisoners who were not allowed to keep their bibles or ritual articles.

Meanwhile, the Labor Alignment and Shinui were reported to be negotiating today about a possible no-confidence motion in the Knesset tomorrow over

the Burg-Shafir affair. However, the Alignment was said to be reluctant to embarrass the NRP which it might need as a coalition partner if it wins the Knesset elections.

### CABINET CRISIS OVER TEACHERS PAY AVERTED BUT ISSUE IS UNRESOLVED

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 4 (JTA) -- A Cabinet crisis over improved pay for teachers was averted today, but the issue still remains unresolved. The Cabinet decided that Finance Minister Yigal Hurwitz and Education Minister Ze'evulun Hammer, who are sharply at odds over the issue, will join Premier Menachem Begin in a committee to discuss it "with a view to reaching an agreed decision."

Cabinet sources said it was hoped that a special Cabinet meeting could be held at the end of the week to resolve the dispute over the report by the Etzioni Commission which recommends dramatic improvements in wages and conditions for teachers. Hurwitz reiterated today that he will resign immediately if the Cabinet endorses the recommendations, even if they are not to be implemented until 1982.

Hammer, while abstaining from outright threats, is understood to be just as firmly entrenched in his position that the recommendations of the government commission must be endorsed by the Cabinet in principle, with a specific and clear undertaking that the wage rises will be carried through -- even though in stages and over a period of years.

Cabinet sources said opinion during today's session seemed to tilt in favor of Hurwitz. Had there been a vote, these sources assessed, the Finance Minister would have won a majority. But Hammer made a point of noting after the session that Begin himself seemed to support the Education Ministry's view.

The two teachers unions reacted angrily to the Cabinet's decision not to decide yet. The secondary school teachers said they would formally declare a "labor dispute" immediately. This is a legal step that entitles a union to take strike action 15 days later. The elementary school union leaders also said they would not accept "this foot-dragging" and hinted that some form of labor sanctions would already be felt in the classrooms during this week.

### Essence of Etzioni Report

Likud ministers and leading Knesset members were working feverishly before, during and after the Cabinet meeting to devise a formula that could enable both Hammer and Hurwitz to stay in office. The basic motif in all these efforts is an endorsement-in-principle of the Etzioni report coupled with a loophole enabling the government to defer payment of the wage hikes for the time being.

The Etzioni report recommended a year ago that teachers should receive an increase of about 55 percent on present salaries which average about \$525 a month. Together with a demand for retirement at 50 and a requested 20 percent increase in the teaching staff the hike would cost the treasury about \$1.5 billion.

The teachers union is demanding parity with engineering workers who they say earn about 60 percent more. The basic starting salary for a newly-qualified teacher is \$328 a month and goes up to \$618 a month after 26 years. A tea-

cher with a master's degree earns \$421 a month during the first year, rising to a ceiling of \$723 a month.

Political observers say the matter is complicated, and Hammer's position weakened, by the Burg-Shafir affair and by the Abu-Hatzeira affair, which both involve ministers from Hammer's National Religious Party. These two affairs, it is reasoned, must inevitably make Hammer think twice and thrice before moving to bring down the government and thereby advance the elections.

From the NRP's point of view, these observers feel, the later the elections are held -- the better. By next November (the statutory date), the NRP hopes, the Burg-Shafir affair will have been long forgotten and Abu-Hatzeira will have been able to prove his innocence in court, or alternatively, if he is found guilty, his conviction will have lost its immediate impact on the minds of the electorate.

### CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSING UNITS SEEN AS IMPERATIVE NEED IN GALILEE, ARAVA SETTLEMENTS

JERUSALEM, Jan. 4 (JTA) -- Concern over a lack of housing in newly established settlements in the Galilee and Arava regions was the topic of an urgent discussion here between Jewish Agency Executive chairman Leon Dulzin, Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon and the cochairmen of the Agency's Settlement Department, Re'anan Weitz and Matityahu Drobles.

The Jewish Agency is very concerned that lack of housing in these settlements will endanger their stability and dissipate funds already invested in their infrastructure. According to the Agency's Settlement Department, 4000 housing units should be constructed in the shortest possible time in settlement areas under the Agency's auspices within the Green Line only. Since housing is the government's responsibility, Weitz proposed to discuss with the government, funding for a minimum of 1500 housing units in those areas.

The Agency would lay out the \$30 million needed for the 1500 housing units on the condition that the government would include expenditures for this in the future budgets, Weitz said. He declared that he would be prepared to support this proposal with the Jewish Agency's Board of Governors if the government indicated that it was prepared to approve this transaction in principle. Sharon said he favored the proposal in principle and said he would explore the matter with the government.

### JOBLESSNESS ROSE BY 67 PERCENT IN ISRAEL DURING 1980

TEL AVIV, Jan. 4 (JTA) -- Preliminary figures just made available showed that unemployment in Israel rose by 67 percent during the year just ended and other bad news for the economy. The actual figures were not immediately available but will be published by the Central Bureau of Statistics after all of the data has been formally collated.

According to the preliminary figures, real wages declined by nine percent in 1980, after allowing for an annual inflation rate of 130 percent. Private consumption per capita dropped by seven percent. Industrial investments declined by 11 percent and industrial production by between 4-5 percent.

One bright spot was the six percent drop in imports last year while exports increased by almost four percent. Public consumption rose by six percent, mainly as a result of the new military airfields being built in the Negev. Histadrut announced, meanwhile, a 1900 Shekel (\$250) rise in the monthly minimum wage as of January 1, 1981. This is the result of the 21.6 percent increase in the cost-of-living allowance payable this month.

**BEHIND THE HEADLINES****THE JEWS OF EAST GERMANY**

By Rochelle Sidel-Wolk

(Part One Of A Five-Part Series)

ALBANY, Jan. 4 (JTA) — Most American Jews know virtually nothing about the German Democratic Republic (GDR or East Germany), and even less about its Jewish population. Although America has maintained diplomatic relations with the GDR since 1974, this Warsaw Pact nation is generally ignored here. For most Americans and Israelis, the Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany) is the only Germany.

In an effort to part the Iron Curtain enough to show to Western Jewry that the Jews of the GDR are well-treated, for the first time the Liga für Völkerverständnis (League for Friendship Among the People) of the GDR invited a delegation of three Anglo-Jewish journalists, including this correspondent.

The slogan of the Liga is "Friendship among the people promotes peace." The 10-day trip in October was arranged in cooperation with the Jewish Gemeinde (Community) of the GDR and the American Society for the Study of the GDR.

Our invitation to study the Jewish community of the GDR probably meant that the government was confident it could present a positive image of Jewish life. The small Jewish community does live quite well in East Germany.

Although heavy reparations to the Soviet Union and Poland in the post-war years delayed the GDR's economic recovery, it is now the most highly industrialized nation in Eastern Europe, ranking among the world's top nine industrial growth nations. Per capita income is the highest in Eastern Europe, with nationally-owned enterprises accounting for nearly 96 percent of industrial output.

**Jews Receive Honorary Pensions**

"Victims of fascism," including the Jewish community, receive honorary pensions and other benefits that allow them to live a comfortable life. (Emigration is not permitted until retirement age, but this is not a uniquely Jewish issue.)

After Germany's unconditional surrender to the Allies on May 8, 1945, the United States, the United Kingdom, France and the Soviet Union had occupied the country, with the three commanders in chief in charge of their respective zones.

The GDR was proclaimed on Oct. 11, 1949, following a series of People's Congresses in the Soviet Zone. The leading party, the Socialist Unity Party (SED), was formed in 1946 from the Communist Party and the Social Democrats. (The U.S. State Department describes the coalition as a "forced fusion"; the government of the GDR refers to a "voluntary merger.")

The GDR was recognized by the Soviet Union and the Soviet bloc nations immediately after proclaiming itself a nation, but it was largely unrecognized by non-Communist countries until the 1960s. America withheld recognition until 1974. Even today, the United States considers East Berlin, the capital of the GDR, as the Soviet sector of that city and not a legally constituent part of the GDR.

In addition to the SED, with over two million members, the GDR has four other major

parties, with a total membership of some 370,000. One of the four is the Christian Democratic Union (CDU), with about 80,000 members.

In a Communist country dedicated to the ultimate disappearance of all religion, it is interesting that government-approved literature describes the CDU as uniting "people of Christian faith whose code of ethics motivates them to take part in building socialist society ... The CDU is committed to the progressive traditions of Christian humanism and advocates trusting cooperation with Marxists." The Protestant Church is active in social and political affairs in the GDR, with some 8 million members in a total population of 17 million.

**Publication of Books on Judaism**

Gerald Gotting, head of the CDU and also president of the Liga, told us that his party was responsible for the publication of books relating to Judaism, and coordination of other cultural Jewish activities. He presented us with a magnificently illustrated book, just off the press, entitled "The Synagogue in German History." The book depicted the grandeur of Jewish culture and religion in Germany past.

At present, the Jewish community of the GDR is struggling to stay alive despite formidable demographic odds. If the future of Judaism in the GDR seems less viable than the present, probably even hopeless, the government does not appear to be at fault.

Based on my observations and interviews, it does not seem that the GDR, like some other Communist countries, forcibly represses religion. The Jewish community receives support from the government for synagogue and cemetery maintenance, cultural events and other activities. But isolation and attrition, and not government repression, are gradually dissolving the community.

(Tomorrow: Part Two)

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TEL AVIV (JTA) -- A \$200 million contract has been signed between the government of Israel and the Seattle-based Boeing Company to buy four Boeing 767s for Israel's national airline, El Al, according to airline sources here. The planes will be part of a new fleet intended to modernize El Al's operations and to turn a profit with more economical aircraft after three years of losses which topped \$98.6 million last year. The new aircraft is scheduled to be placed in operation by 1983.

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JERUSALEM (JTA) -- The Cabinet Sunday unanimously approved the appointment of a new Minister of Communications, Knesset member Yoram Aridor of the Herut wing of Likud. Aridor, who was Premier Menachem Begin's choice for the post, is a Tel Aviv lawyer who serves as chairman of the Herut secretariat. He succeeds Yitzhak Modai, a member of the Liberal Party wing of Likud, who asked to be relieved of that post. Modai will continue in the Cabinet as Minister of Energy.

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NEW YORK (JTA) -- The National Conference on Soviet Jewry reported Friday that the total number of Jews who left the Soviet Union in December was 889, which brought the total of emigrating Jews during 1980 to 24,471. The NCSJ said the 1980 total represented a 58 percent decline from the reported 51,320 Jews who emigrated from the Soviet Union in 1979.