

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## THE KLAU LIBRARY DM, AGUDA JOIN MOVES FOR AN EARLY ELECTION By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 14 (JTA) — The prospect of elections in June was strengthened today when two coalition parties, the Democratic Movement and Aguda Israel, openly supported the idea. Nevertheless, last-minute efforts were still underway by Housing Minister David Levy, Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon and Commerce and Industry Minister Gideon Patt, to put together a Knesset majority that could last until November.

Well-placed political observers said however that there was no real hope that these efforts would convince a majority of the coalition to rethink the June-election prospect. Deputy Premier Simcha Ehrlich was expected to tell television viewers tonight that the majority in his Liberal Party favors holding the election in June.

The DM empowered one of its three MKs, Binyamin Halevy, to present a private members bill today setting the election date for June 16. He said he felt the coalition and ultimately the opposition too could unite around that date.

The four-man Aguda faction is understood to have resolved by a 3-1 majority to support June elections. The one dissenting voice was that of MK Shlomo Gross. The party's executive is expected to take the same decision at a meeting tomorrow, formally endorsing the faction's viewpoint.

Aguda sources explained today that their party felt it had achieved notable successes during the present Knesset term and wanted to go to the electorate on the basis of those achievements. Any delay now in calling elections could jeopardize some of Aguda's successes.

### The Situation of Aguda

The Aguda sources referred to a bill that passed its first reading in the Knesset today calling for obligatory social service by young women who do not enlist in the army. The bill was presented by Geula Cohen of the Tehiya faction. The Aguda is opposed to drafting women.

Similarly, in the mounting election fever, the Knesset Finance Committee decided by a majority vote today not to approve certain government grants to Aguda-affiliated institutions. Likud members joined with the Labor opposition against the allocations. Commenting on these developments, an Aguda leader told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that "There is no point in artificially propping up the government by parliamentary tricks."

Without Aguda and the DM, Likud and the National Religious Party have no majority by any calculations. Therefore, it seemed to observers today that Levy's efforts to shore up the government were doomed to fail. It was noted, however, that Aguda and the DM are capable of reversing their stands overnight.

The Likud Knesset faction meeting with Premier Menachem Begin to decide an election date is scheduled for Friday morning. Early today there were reports that it would be postponed to allow more time for Levy's efforts to bear fruit.

But sources close to Begin said the meeting would be held as planned.

## FOCUS ON ISSUES CARTER'S RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL ENDING MUCH LIKE THEY STARTED By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14 (JTA) — In the closing weeks of its four mainly dispute-ridden years of relations with Israel and its friends, Carter Administration policy-makers reverted publicly from a form of "even-handedness" towards Israel-Arab affairs during the presidential election campaign to renewed backing of the Rogers Plan proposals of 1969.

In addition to adherence to the plan that calls for Israel to return to its 1967 borders and abandon Jerusalem, Carter Administration aides went further. To accomplish this purpose, they now again good Israel's American friends to lessen their support for the Middle East's only democracy and cast aspersions on its freely-elected government.

### What A Second Carter Term Would Have Meant

This apparent swing back to old perceptions indicates what a second Carter term might have meant for Israel. Evidence is in the post-election U.S. attitude in the United Nations; the comments of State Department spokesmen; the personal remarks of the U.S. Ambassador to the UN, Donald McHenry; the views of former Ambassador to Egypt, Hermann Eilts; and the outline of U.S. psychological operations towards Israel offered by Dartmouth Prof. Ian Lustick, who worked in the State Department on Middle East issues in 1979-1980 and accurately reflect U.S. policy as it has been carried out most of the Carter term.

In a post-election address at the dinner given last month by friends of Israel to AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland, President Carter characteristically lauded Israel's devotion to political democracy and hailed the Camp David agreements.

But he omitted such elements as the unity of Jerusalem, opposition to a Palestinian state and dealing with the Palestine Liberation Organization, and Jewish life and Israeli security related to the West Bank, Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights. This presentation essentially was in keeping with the Lustick formula of limited support for Israel — a formula the President outlined in Clinton, Mass. in 1977.

### Example Of Vacillating Treatment of Israel

The Administration's vacillating treatment of Israel in its fourth year is illustrated by pre-election and post-election developments. On March 1, the U.S. voted in the UN Security Council for Israel to abandon Jerusalem but in the subsequent Congressional storm, much like after the Soviet-U.S. agreement Oct. 1, 1977, Carter repudiated the U.S. vote but the State Department never changed it formally at the UN.

After that, the Administration did not cast any votes against Israel in the Security Council until mid-December — after the Presidential elections — when the U.S. voted along with the other 14 members of the Security Council on a resolution cal-

ling upon Israel to allow two West Bank Arab mayors to return to their homes after they had been deported by Israel following the terrorist ambush attack last May in Hebron in which six yeshiva students were killed.

Immediately after the vote took place, McHenry delivered a statement that might well go down as the quotation of the year: "Cynics may claim that we would have voted differently before November 4, but I can't be hostage to cynics." The resolution on the mayors was one of six anti-Israel resolutions the Security Council passed the same day. Through it all, the U.S. delegation allowed Israel to be mercilessly browbeaten.

#### Muskie's Performance In The UN

There was also an element of vacillation on the part of the U.S. when Secretary of State Edmund Muskie addressed the Security Council on Aug. 20 when that body voted to censure Israel for proclaiming united Jerusalem as its capital and urged all states that had embassies in the holy city to withdraw them.

Muskie told the Council that the resolution "is illustrative of a preoccupation which has produced this series of unbalanced and unrealistic resolutions on Middle East issues. It fails to serve the goal of all faiths that look to Jerusalem as holy." He urged that "debates and resolutions that are not germane to the peace process -- and even harmful to it -- should stop. Elsewhere in southwest Asia, and in southeast Asia, warfare is a present reality. The aggressor nations make no effort to find peace. Yet this Council is continuously drawn to the Middle East, where authentic work for peace is underway."

But Muskie, instead of vetoing the measure as his words seemed to indicate he would, instead abstained.

When Jordan's delegate engaged in anti-Semitic abuse of a kind not expressed by any government in any international forum since the time of the Nazis, the U.S. delegation was silent. Only Israel's envoy responded to it.

#### Israel Being Blamed

The focus of blame for Middle East problems constantly is put on Israel. In an interview published Dec. 12 in the Kansas City Jewish Chronicle, McHenry said Israel's policies provide "ammunition" to Israel's enemies. "We don't believe Israel's actions on settlements, on Jerusalem, in southern Lebanon, in the repressive actions in the West Bank are in the interests of Israel, the interest of peace." He rejected Israel's role in U.S. strategic interest. "I don't use the language 'strategic ally,'" he said.

McHenry, 44, who leaves office Jan. 19, presumably to take an academic post, called for debate in America about Israel's policies. "There is a frequent tendency among supporters of Israel in the U.S. to take a position that comes very close to 'my country, right or wrong'," he said. His words, some noted here, come very close to calling on Americans to denounce Israel.

#### Two Attacks on Israel

The winter issue of Foreign Policy magazine, published by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, contained two attacks on Israel. Under the title, "Saving Camp David," Eilts hinted Israel deceived the U.S. at Camp David. On the Jerusalem issue and settlements, Eilts said "the Americans had misunderstood or had been misled."

Agreeing most of the way with McHenry about the PLO, Eilts said "only through open U.S. contacts with the PLO leadership will it be possible to gauge whether the PLO would be willing and able to participate responsibly in broader peace negotiations." Eilts added that "in return, the PLO must renounce terrorism." He did not mention adherence to Security Council Resolutions 242 or 338.

He regards Camp David as having given Israel too much despite its return of all the Sinai to Egypt. "At some point in the future," Eilts noted, "the U.S. may find it prudent to shelve quietly the Camp David imprimatur, which has become a psychological barrier to broader Arab participation." Although "such a decision should be made only with Egyptian and Israel," the implication is that Israel should be leaned on to give more.

Lustick plainly called for the U.S. to treat Israel with disdain. "A policy of steady, public, and convincing disassociation from Israel's policies in and toward the West Bank and Gaza would help create" an "international political context supportive of those elements in Israel that already are or will become aware of the necessity to reach a political accommodation with the Palestinians." He did not identify those elements.

#### 'Policy of Disassociation'

"A policy of disassociation rather than mediation or pressure," he said, "would help the growing numbers of those both in Israel and in the U.S. Jewish community, who are striving to frame Israel's choices in a way that focuses attention on the long-term costs of fulfilling maximalist ideological commitment."

Under the policy of "disassociation," Lustick wrote, "the U.S. would continue current very high levels of military and economic aid to Israel but would publicly, concretely and regularly express its opposition to settlements, land expropriation, deportations, seizure of water sources, annexation of East Jerusalem, or any other aspects of the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza reflecting Israeli ambitions that go beyond insuring order and security."

Like other Administration articulations legitimizing the PLO, Lustick suggested altering Camp David's provisions because the peace processes "weaken U.S. credibility in the Arab world" and "an atmosphere develops in which Syria, Saudi Arabia and the PLO become less convinced of the possibility of a political accommodation with Israel."

Pentagon figures issued New Year's Day disclosed that in fiscal 1980 that ended Sept. 30, U.S. arms sales to Saudi Arabia totaled \$4.5 billion compared with \$1.9 billion in 1977. Three years ago, Egypt obtained only \$1.7 million in U.S. military equipment. In 1980, the total reached \$2.4 billion -- 15 times as much.

While Israel received a Congressional appropriation of \$1 billion for fiscal 1980 for U.S. weapons, it actually purchased only \$298 million because, the Pentagon told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, it needed to catch up on payments of previous acquisitions. Jordan acquired \$450 million in equipment in 1980.

#### UNIFIL CHIEF SAYS HIS FORCE IS SUCCESSFUL IN PREVENTING TERRORIST INCURSIONS INTO ISRAEL

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 14 (JTA) -- Gen. Emmanuel Ertzkin, of Ghana, commander of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) says that his men spend 50 percent of their time trying to prevent Palestinian terrorist infiltration into Israel and is successful in preventing most incursions. In an in-

interview with Maariv, Erskine noted that because of the rocky terrain in south Lebanon it was impossible to be "100 percent ironclad."

He said that most of the Palestinian successes in getting through the Israel border were due to cooperation between the terrorists and local south Lebanese villagers. He said he had called the attention of both Israel's northern area commander Gen. Avigdor Ben-Gal and Christian militia commander Maj. Saad Haddad to this fact.

Erskine said he was aware that global political considerations colored UN actions in the General Assembly and the Security Council "But I cannot say that fact has influenced any of the instructions I have received as to how I and my force are to act," he stated.

The UNIFIL commander said he did not wish to discuss the mutilation of the bodies of slain terrorists with which Israel has been charged but vehemently denies. He said that he himself had been in New York at the time and his suggestion, when he returned, of an international inquiry commission was rejected by Israel, which preferred a joint Israel-UNIFIL investigation. He agreed to this, but it was rejected by UN headquarters in New York.

Because of the lapse of time, the intervening rains and the burial of the bodies the UN preferred political contacts between New York and the Israeli Foreign Ministry to settle the affair, Erskine said. He said he knew that there had been suspicion of UNIFIL on the part of the Israeli public since its mission began but there was now a climate of mutual respect between his force and the Israel army.

Erskine said that since May, 1980 there had been practically no contacts between his men and Palestine Liberation Organization leaders, whereas before that there had been frequent meetings with PLO chief Yasir Arafat and others. "Recently we have not been able to establish with the PLO the contacts and cooperation we would like," he said.

#### BOYCOTT OF RALLIES IN EFFECT

BUFFALO, N.Y. Jan. 14 (JTA) -- A spokesman for the Jewish Federation of Greater Buffalo said today that the Federation's recommendation to Buffalo Jews to boycott a rally planned by a local neo-Nazi group and a counter-rally by the Martin Luther King Day Coalition here tomorrow remained in effect despite refusal by a Federal District Court to issue an injunction limiting the scope of the neo-Nazi activities. Tomorrow is the 52nd birthday of the slain Black leader.

Judge John Elfein handed down his decision yesterday, rejecting the request for an injunction to curtail rally activities of the neo-Nazis on constitutional grounds. He held that the neo-Nazis had not chosen the time and place for their demonstration in Niagara Square "to commit or provoke physical violence."

The injunction Elfein refused to issue would have barred the neo-Nazis from passing out inflammatory material or making racist statements at the rally.

A number of other King commemorative events are planned for tomorrow, the main one being a city-wide assembly in Lafayette Square. Other events are a concert tribute to King's memory tomorrow and a Jan. 18 meeting sponsored by B'nai B'rith at the Jewish Community Center. The Federation asked Jews to attend only those three events.

In a letter mailed last Friday to all 7000 Buffalo Jewish families, the Federation urged local Jews to attend the Lafayette Square program, at noon, organized by the City's Black Leadership Forum, comprised of all major Black organizations in the city, according to Gail Kaplan, Federation president. The Lafayette Square rally is being cosponsored by the National Conference of Christians and Jews and by many other community organizations, including the Federation, Mrs. Kaplan said.

#### Large-Scale Surveillance Planned

Despite the federal Judge's opinion that the neo-Nazis did not plan violence, plans reportedly have been completed to have surveillance of the Niagara meeting by helicopters, county police and possibly FBI agents, some to be stationed at windows looking down on Niagara Square.

A group called the Martin Luther King Day Coalition planned a demonstration at the same time in Niagara Square. Mayor James Griffin had refused to issue a permit to either group for the Niagara Square rally but both groups indicated they would ignore the permit refusal, a key factor in the decision of a group of officials and residents to seek the injunction.

#### FRANCE TO RENEW WORK ON NUCLEAR REACTOR IN IRAQ

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Jan. 14 (JTA) -- France has decided to renew work on the nuclear reactor it is helping Iraq build in the vicinity of Baghdad. The usually well informed French weekly, Le Point, reports in its forthcoming issue that French technicians are due to leave for Baghdad and resume work on the site.

Work was interrupted and the French technicians withdrawn after the reactor, known as Osirak, was bombed by two unidentified Phantom planes during the early days of Iraq's war with Iran. The reactor's concrete dome was slightly damaged by the planes' rockets and the French personnel were evacuated overland to Amman, Jordan, and flown to France from there.

Iraq has several times since asked for the resumption of the construction work on the reactor which theoretically should have become operative later this year. France and Iraq have claimed that both Osirak and a smaller reactor also under construction will be used "strictly for scientific" purposes. But Israel and a number of Western scientists have charged that it could easily switch to the production of nuclear arms.

#### EL AL FACES GENERAL STRIKE

TEL AVIV, Jan. 14 (JTA) -- El Al, Israel's national airline, faced a general strike tonight that could result in its shut-down and reorganization. The latest crisis for the money-losing carrier erupted when dismissal notices were sent to six members of the maintenance workers committee who had called a four-hour work stoppage yesterday.

Histadrut leaders and El Al top management were closeted in discussions today of how to avert a strike. The labor federation apparently wants the dismissal notices cancelled. The airline's board chairman, Avraham Shavit, said he was "optimistic" that a solution would be found. But he charged that the company's operations were being disrupted by a group of "hot-headed extremists." The maintenance workers called their stoppage yesterday on grounds that the government failed to provide the funds it had promised to tide the airline over its financial difficulties.

## 152 NEW WAR CRIMES CASES FILED IN WEST GERMANY IN 1980

BONN, Jan. 14 (JTA) — In 1980, 152 new war crimes cases were filed in West Germany, it was reported by Adalbert Rueckerl, head of the central office for the investigation of Nazi crimes in Ludwigsburg. When the Parliament abolished the more than 100-year-old Statute of Limitations for murder last year, it left the door open for a continuing investigation and bringing to trial of Nazi war criminals.

Had the statute not been abolished, only cases already filed with the courts would have been subject to prosecution and there would have been no further investigations to uncover unknown events in Poland, according to Rueckerl.

## DUTCH SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS JAIL SENTENCE FOR WAR CRIMINAL

By Henriette Boas

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 14 (JTA) — The 10-year prison sentence imposed on Nazi war criminal Pieter Menten was upheld by The Hague Supreme Court yesterday, ending a 4 1/2 year legal struggle to bring the millionaire Dutch art dealer to justice for his murder of Jews and others while a member of the Nazi SS.

Menten, 81, was convicted by a special tribunal in Rotterdam last June for war crimes committed in the Polish village of Podhorodze in July, 1941. In addition to the prison term, he was fined 100,000 Guilders. It was his second conviction on the charge of mass murder. In December, 1977 an Amsterdam court sentenced him to 15 years imprisonment. But the Supreme Court quashed that verdict on technicalities and referred the case to The Hague district court. When the latter upheld the earlier sentence, the Supreme Court again overturned it and sent the case to the Rotterdam court which convicted him anew.

But Menten lost his final appeal yesterday. He is presently confined to a hospital under police guard while undergoing treatment for diabetes and arteriosclerosis.

## JEWISH RELIGIOUS CLASSES IN MOSCOW DISBANDED

NEW YORK, Jan. 14 (JTA) — All the privately run religious classes in Moscow have been forced to shut down because of KGB harassment, it was reported here today by the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry (GNYSJ). This means in fact that there is no study of religion in the largest city in the Soviet Union, the GNYSJ said. The "official" Moscow yeshiva contains 10 government picked students and is presumably not affected by this crackdown.

The Jews are the only Soviet minority who are denied their own school system, the GNYSJ noted. The classes that were closed were led by a number of self-educated teachers whose students convened in private homes to study bible, talmud and Jewish history. They frequently gathered to celebrate Shabbat and Jewish holidays communally. Among the teachers of these groups was Eliyahu Esas, Yuli Kosharovsky, Ze'ev Shachnovsky and Lev Gorodetzky.

Uniformed KGB officers also physically disbanded a privately organized Hebrew kindergarten whose students were four and five years old, according to the GNYSJ. The crackdown on the teachers and the Jewish religious revival began with the arrest in November of Viktor Brailovsky, editor of the "Jews in the USSR."

## TWO JEWS ELECTED TO HIGH OFFICES

By Ben Kayfetz

VANCOUVER, British Columbia, Jan. 14 (JTA) — Muni Evers, 64, a pharmacist, has been elected to his seventh two-year term as mayor of New Westminster, a suburb of Vancouver. He was born in Winnipeg, where his late father, Meyer Auerbach, was educational director of the Canadian Jewish Congress and principal of the Talmud Torah in Winnipeg.

Nathan Divinsky, a mathematics professor at the University of British Columbia, was elected Alderman of Vancouver in a recent election. He served six years as Vancouver School Trustee and the last two years as School Board Chairman. A native of Winnipeg, Divinsky was active in Hillel at Vancouver University as a student.

Evers told the Jewish Western Bulletin that he was happy to be entering his "Bar Mitzvah" year as New Westminster's mayor.

## ISRAEL EFROS DEAD AT 89

TEL AVIV, Jan. 14 (JTA) — Dr. Israel Efros, a Hebrew poet and educator in the United States and Israel and the first rector of Tel Aviv University, died here at the age of 89.

Efros was born in the Ukraine May 28, 1891 and came to the United States in 1905. He received a doctorate from Columbia University, founded the Baltimore Hebrew College and Training School in 1918 and was its dean until 1928. He later was professor of Hebrew at the University of Buffalo from 1929-1941, when he came to Hunter College in New York City. While at Hunter he also taught Jewish philosophy and Hebrew literature at Dropsie College in Philadelphia. He was also president of the Histadrut Ivrit of America.

In 1955, Efros moved to Tel Aviv after being appointed rector of Tel Aviv University a post he held until 1959. He later became honorary president of the university. Efros was coauthor of a Hebrew-English dictionary and the author of many books of poetry and philosophy. He received several Jewish and Israeli literary awards.

## A NET GAIN FOR ISRAEL

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 14 (JTA) — Israel has been put on the world's tennis map — including the most promising appearances of its leading player, Shlomo Glickstein, at Wimbledon in Britain as well as in the U.S., Australia and elsewhere — largely thanks to establishment of the Israel Tennis Center (ITC) outside Tel Aviv and in other towns and villages in Israel.

The first 11 of 16 new courts at the ITC's Jerusalem sub-center are to open this summer, built with a \$40,000 contribution from South African Jewry, to be matched by contributions from other world Jewish communities. Another 17-court center is also to open later this year in Ashkelon, with funds raised in Britain.

Since the ITC's first 16 court center and club-room was opened in Ramat Hasharon near Tel Aviv five years ago, other tennis centers have been opened in Jaffa and Kiryat Shemona in Galilee, with construction of yet another set of courts in Haifa.

According to Ian Froman, ITC executive director, North American, British and West European Jewish communities have so far donated some \$12 million for the establishment of the various centers which have till now provided tennis lessons and playing facilities, at a nominal cost, to about 30,000 boys and girls aged 8-13. Some of them have already appeared in international junior matches.