

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## KNESSET UNIT POSTPONES VOTE ON ELECTION DATE UNTIL NEXT WEEK

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 28 (JTA) -- At Premier Menachem Begin's request, the Knesset's Legal Committee agreed today to postpone its vote on an election date until next Tuesday. The delay drew angry comments from opposition members and even committee chairman David Glass, of the National Religious Party, indicated that he had hoped for an earlier decision.

Begin said he asked that the vote be deferred so that he could consult with the Education Ministry as to whether holding elections before the summer recess would affect school work. Most polling places are located in schools. But the problem that seems to worry Begin never rose before because election day is a national holiday when no classes are held.

When the committee does get around to voting it is expected to recommend elections on June 23 or June 30. Those dates would represent a compromise between the government-initiated bill for elections on July 7 and opposition proposals for elections in April or May.

## GIVON SETTLERS RETURN HOME

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 28 (JTA) -- About 200 militant settlers who seized a hill top north of Jerusalem Sunday, returned to their homes yesterday apparently satisfied that their action had spurred the government to speed up its plans to build a new town on the West Bank site. Representatives of the group and of the settlers regional council, met with Premier Menachem Begin today.

He promised them that building would commence in three months. The plans for the new town, known as Givon, have been submitted to the Military Government's zoning committee. Pinhas Wallerstein, chairman of the regional council, said working procedures have already been agreed on with the government.

The settlers' unauthorized occupation of the hill sparked an angry exchange between Housing Minister David Levy who insisted that they evacuate and Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon who supported the illegal action. Levy maintained that settlers should not be allowed to dictate policy to the government and denied their charges that his ministry was moving too slowly to build the new town.

Sharon, who heads the Ministerial Settlement Committee, has been urging the government to act with utmost speed to plant new settlements on the West Bank before the elections this spring that could bring the Labor Party into power and with it a more moderate settlement policy.

## MOVES AGAINST SHARON PLAN DEFEATED

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 28 (JTA) -- The coalition majority struck from the Knesset agenda today six opposition motions against a plan by Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon to offer private housing companies prime building land in Jerusalem and

other cities if they will build residential units for more settlers on the West Bank.

Replying to the motions, Sharon confirmed that he was negotiating the deal with several private contractors and that the Israel Lands Authority, which is subordinate to him, is examining the legal ramifications of the proposal. The "land for apartments" deal is a barter arrangement conceived by Sharon because the government is short of funds to accelerate building on the West Bank.

It was sharply criticized by members of the opposition Labor Party who charged that Sharon intends to erect scores of new homes on the West Bank before the elections this spring in order to narrow political options open to the Labor Party should it win control of the government.

Sharon himself was defiant. "We offer land for apartments while you would offer land for baseless dreams," he told the opposition MKs. He appeared to be referring to the Labor Party's policy of territorial compromise in pursuit of peace.

## SPECIAL TO THE JTA ARABS MAY SEEK SECURITY COUNCIL SESSION TO DEAL WITH ISRAEL'S OCCUPATION OF ARAB TERRITORIES

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Jan. 28 (JTA) -- Sources at the United Nations said today they expected the Arabs to ask for a Security Council session to deal with Israel's occupation of Arab territories, especially East Jerusalem, following the Islamic summit meeting currently being held in Taif, Saudi Arabia, and the meeting of non-aligned foreign ministers in New Delhi scheduled to take place Feb. 13-19.

The sources said the Arabs would probably seek to impose sanctions on Israel to force Israel to abide by previous Security Council resolutions.

Meanwhile, the Israeli officials at the UN voiced criticism and "surprise" over Secretary General Kurt Waldheim's attendance at the Islamic summit meeting in Saudi Arabia. The officials said that Waldheim, who returned to New York today, should not have attended the summit meeting at which one of the declared purposes was to plan for the destruction of another UN member state, Israel.

According to reports here, Waldheim presented during his stay in Saudi Arabia the UN peace medal to the oil-rich nation's King Khalid. The Israeli officials expressed further "surprise" at the presentation, noting that Khalid called for a jihad (holy war) against Israel.

In response to a question as to what are the criteria for receiving the UN peace medal, the UN spokesman said the peace medal is given by the Secretary General to heads of state or other persons who contributed to the UN.

A UN spokesman said today that Waldheim regarded his visit to Saudi Arabia as "very useful," because it provided an excellent opportunity to hold talks on matters of concern to the UN, particularly crisis situations. Meanwhile, Syrian President Hafez Assad, addressing the Islamic summit tonight, called for a struggle against U.S. military bases.

## BLACK AMERICAN GROUP SUPPORTS ISRAEL'S POLICY OF PREVENTING ENTRY OF BLACK CULT MEMBERS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 28 (JTA) — An unofficial group of American black leaders sponsored by "BASIC" (Black Americans to Support Israel Committee) has expressed support of Israel's policy to prevent additional members of the "Black Hebrew Community" (BHC) from joining some 1,200 already in the country.

But the group, led by the pro-Israel Black activist, Bayard Rustin, urged the Israel government to cease airport entry procedures that smack of racism, and to come to quick decisions on how to treat the existing BHC people who are in the country, (mainly in Dimona and Arad).

In an interview with the Jerusalem Post today, Rustin said that he himself would defend Israel's right to deport the members of the cult, and he called the BHC leader, Ben-Ami Carter, a "dictator."

The group as a whole, however, was careful at an earlier press conference not to pass judgement on Carter and the BHC. It maintained that deportation of the BHC people from Israel now was not a viable or condonable option.

### Spent 11 Days Studying the Problem

The group included, beside Rustin, Alexander Allen, vice president of the National Urban League, Lewis Carter III, national labor director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and Mrs. Arthur Logan of the National Council of Negro Women.

It spent 11 days studying the BHC's problem, held meetings with Israeli officials, including President Yitzhak Navon, Interior Minister Yosef Burg, Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir; the U.S. Embassy staff, including Ambassador Samuel Lewis; Histadrut officials; representatives of the American Jewish Committee, American Jewish Congress and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith; newspaper editors; and members of the two main BHC concentrations in Dimona and Arad, as well as local residents in both cities.

### Finds No Official Racism In Israel

In its report the group declared it had found "no official racism in Israel." Rustin and Allen stressed this key conclusion at a press conference here yesterday. But the report added that the practices of immigration police at the airport entry point "risk being perceived as racist no matter what explanations are given."

Blacks arriving in the country are weeded out of waiting lines and subjected to apparently discriminatory treatment and questioning, the report said. "Such behavior encourages anti-Israel propaganda and creates conflict between American Jews and American Blacks," it warned.

Rustin revealed that anti-Israel groups in Washington are currently collating the testimonies of Black visitors to Israel telling of such undignified treatment and these affidavits could be used against Israel in the future before the court of American public opinion.

He and his colleagues demanded therefore "extremely impeccable conduct" and "dignity" on the part of immigration officials who go about their unchallengeable duty to prevent illegal entry of undesirable aliens.

The report also urged the Israel government "to make a prompt decision defining the status of these persons." Long delays had impinged on their human rights, the group felt. Its own recom-

mendations were that the BHC people be given temporary work permits and that efforts to provide them with adequate housing continue.

On the controversial matter of Carter's power over the BHC, the group merely noted in an "addendum" that "our concern for human rights extends to those which may be denied to the members of BHC by its leader."

The addendum noted, too, a "recent indication of a spirit of cooperation and compromise" between the BHC and the Israeli authorities, but for the moment the group regarded these indications "with some scepticism."

The BHC began arriving in the country from Liberia, where it still maintains a large community, over 10 years ago. Carter and others declared then and subsequently that the BHC would eventually take over the country from the Israeli Jews who are not the truly "chosen people."

Rustin told the press conference that in view of the BHC's ideology "we can fully appreciate Israel's anxiety," and he agreed that an underlying theme of the group's findings was that Israel is justified in keeping additional BHC members out of the country.

### ANDREW SHONFIELD DEAD AT 63

LONDON, Jan. 28 (JTA) — Sir Andrew Shonfield, a prominent economist, editor, writer and academician, died here last Friday at the age of 63 and was buried today in the Liberal Jewish Cemetery. At the time of his death he was a professor of economics at the European University Institute in Florence, Italy and had homes in London and Florence.

Sir Andrew, who was knighted in 1978, was a son of the late Rabbi Victor Schonfeld, a noted Hebrew scholar and pedagogue who founded and was spiritual leader of the Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations in Britain. Sir Andrew attended the Nitra-Yeshiva in Czechoslovakia as a youth and completed his education at Oxford University. Although not an Orthodox Jew, he was regarded as a Talmudic scholar.

He was the author of several books on economics, among the best known of which is "Modern Capitalism" published in 1966 which was recognized as an authoritative work on economic issues related to the broader needs of society.

Shonfield was associated with the Royal Institute of International Affairs from 1961-1977 and served for a time as its chairman. He was also a member of the Social Science Research Council and of the Tri-Lateral Commission. During his career he was economic editor of the Observer and foreign editor of the Financial Times.

### JEWISH STUDENTS SEND CONDOLENCES TO ATLANTA'S BLACK COMMUNITY WHERE BLACK CHILDREN WERE KILLED

RENN VALLEY, Pa., Jan. 28 (JTA) — Students at the Har Zion Temple Hebrew High School here were prompted by their study of the Holocaust to send a letter of sympathy to the Black community of Atlanta, Ga. in connection with the wave of killings of Black children in that city. When the letter was sent earlier this month addressed to Mayor Maynard Jackson of Atlanta, the toll of Black children killed stood at 15 and the murders remain unsolved.

According to Rabbi Gerald Wolpe of Har Zion Temple who taught the course, "the thought originated with the students after a discussion with me concerning the moral response to persecution. The theme of the discussion was the Holocaust but some students saw immediately the connection with the killings and the letter resulted," Wolpe told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

The letter stated: "We, the students of the Har Zion Temple High School, would like to express our

empathy with your community as you suffer the unfortunate killing of children in Atlanta. We feel that the prejudices that you are facing are a parallel to the resurgence of anti-Semitic acts all over the world today.

"It is unfortunate that these things are happening. We have been taught about the tragedy of the killing of many Jewish children in the Nazi concentration camps and the killing of innocent Jewish children by terrorists in the Middle East. We hope that these lessons learned have made us more sensitive to this tragedy."

The letter concluded with "condolences to the families which have suffered great loss" and the "hope that soon, this bigotry will come to an end and all children will live in peace and without fear."

#### HAIG RE-ESTABLISHES U.S. MIDEAST POLICY ON BASIS OF POSITIONS TAKEN BY PREVIOUS ADMINISTRATIONS BUT IMPLICITLY RAPS THE JERUSALEM LAW

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28 (JTA) -- Secretary of State Alexander Haig, at a press conference today, his first since taking office, re-established U.S. Middle East policy on the basis of the positions of previous Administrations toward the Palestine Liberation Organization and the issue of Jerusalem and declared that, for his part, he will not immediately become immersed in the Egyptian-Israeli peace process. He said he intends first to review the peace process and hold "some discussions" with the participants.

In response to questions on the Reagan Administration's position on Jerusalem, Haig said that "for 30 years, the U.S. has felt this is a matter that has international implications." Stressing that Jerusalem is the seat of three great religions, he said the city should "not be divided by barbed wire" or imposed "unilateral restraints."

In an apparent reference to the Israeli law declaring united Jerusalem the capital of Israel, Haig added, "We don't welcome unilateral actions that make international consensus impossible." He seemed to stress the international aspects of the Jerusalem issue when he urged "patience" and "participation by the parties involved."

#### Clarifies U.S. Position On PLO

Haig clarified the U.S. position on the PLO that had been stated partially by the State Department in the past two days. "President Reagan has stated, and every American President since 1975 has stated, that we will neither recognize nor negotiate with the PLO as long as they refuse to accept the provisions of United Nations (Security Council) Resolution 242 and the other UN resolutions," Haig said.

He indicated later that he was referring to Security Council Resolution 338. He summarized that expression on the PLO as being a "sufficient answer" to the question.

#### Will Abide By Camp David Accords

Asked if he would invite President Anwar Sadat of Egypt and Israeli Premier Menachem Begin to Washington to extend the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations for autonomy on the West Bank and Gaza, Haig said, "I don't want to inject any sense of urgency in our review of this matter. We have and we will continue to support the Camp David accords and the peace process that has been launched by them" (Sadat and Begin).

He said, "We will continue to abide by that and the U.S. will conduct consultations with

the parties -- not only the signatories but those with a direct interest of the outcome." He did not name the other parties. "We are in the process of reviewing" the peace process, Haig added. "We need to have some discussions with the parties first."

#### STATE OF ISRAEL BONDS PLEDGES \$100 MILLION FOR FIRST STAGE OF MEDITERRANEAN-DEAD SEA CANAL By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 28 (JTA) -- The Israel Bond Organization will raise \$100 million to finance the first stage of the proposed canal between the Mediterranean and the Dead Sea, Samuel Rothberg, general chairman of the Bond Organization, announced today at a dinner session with Premier Menachem Begin.

The announcement came at the end of a day which was devoted to an aerial view of the route of the planned canal. The delegation of 125 members of the Israel Bond Century Club, purchasers of \$100,000 or more in Israel Bonds, was flown in army helicopters to survey the proposed route of the canal. The project was approved in principle by the government last August.

The Bond participation in the project will be above and beyond the regular commitments of the organization. The cost of the entire project is now estimated at \$800 million, most of which the government plans to raise from outside sources. The Bond leaders are in Israel for a three-day conference at the invitation of Begin.

#### Begin Denounces Islamic War Call

Addressing the guests, Begin used the opportunity to react to the resolution of the Islamic summit conference in Saudi Arabia calling a holy war (jihad) against Israel.

The jihad was called for by the need to "liberate" Jerusalem, but Begin responded; "Jerusalem is not in need of liberation. Jerusalem is liberated, free and indivisible." It is Israel's capital, he said, and will be for all generations to come. "No jihad will frighten us," he said.

Begin called for the resumption of the autonomy talks, "which were not interrupted by us," but he set two conditions for the resumption of the talks: no Palestinian state, and Israeli control of security on the West Bank.

#### RABBIS SUPPORT PROGRAM TO MAKE SYNAGOGUES CENTRAL TO JNF WORK

NEW YORK, Jan. 28 (JTA) -- In a gathering here yesterday more than 70 Orthodox, Conservative, and Reform rabbis enthusiastically expressed support for a far-reaching campaign to make the synagogue central in Jewish National Fund fund-raising and educational work.

Convened under the auspices of the JNF Rabbinical Advisory Committee, the rabbis were asked by Rabbi William Berkowitz, president of the JNF, to intensify their efforts in communal, religious, and material support for the JNF as a vital force in the building and redemption of the Land of Israel, in this its 80th anniversary year.

Dr. Samuel Cohen, executive vice president of the JNF, outlined a program of utilizing JNF educational, tree-planting, and fund-raising components in the celebration and ritualization of major events and personal occasions throughout the Jewish calendar year. Cohen announced that the JNF is preparing a Tu B'Shevat (New Year of Trees) manual for wide-spread distribution later this year. It will, he said, offer practical ways of enhancing Tu B'Shevat celebrations at home, school, and synagogue.

## WJCONGRESS STUDY WHICH IS CRITICAL OF ISRAEL'S POLICIES AND ALIYA RAISES A FUROR

By David Landau and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 28 (JTA) — A World Jewish Congress study expressing criticism of Israel's domestic and foreign policies and questioning the feasibility of aliya has created a furor here among World Zionist Organization officials. The 119-page document, titled "The Implications of Israel-Arab Peace for World Jewry," a two-year study which was commissioned by the WJCongress, was made public at its assembly here last week.

The document, which was issued by the WJC's 33-member International Economic and Social Commission chaired by Baron Guy de Rothschild of Paris, concluded the criticism of Israel's policies by Jews in the United States and elsewhere should not be "swept under the rug" but rather openly expressed to relieve "increasing strains" in the relationship between Israel and the diaspora.

"Independent diaspora judgements require full expression in an uninhibited dialogue on the grave doubts and concerns occasioned by Israel's policies," the study stated. It asserted that the question of the right to differ with Israel was "by far the most important of outstanding current issues between Israel and the diaspora."

### Some Doubts and Concerns

Among the "doubts and concerns" felt but often "suppressed" by "independently-minded diaspora Jews," the study said were:

\* "The religious monopoly exercised by the Orthodox rabbinate in Israel with the official sanction of the government — a situation offensive to Conservative and Reform Jewry, as well as to many secular Jews."

\* "Israel's settlement policies in the West Bank and Gaza," its "extremely parochial obtuseness" and "lack of appreciation of increasing critical public opinion in the U.S. and other Western countries."

\* "A flawed electoral system based on proportional representation" that has produced "a multi-party political system and successive coalition governments ... incapable of resolving basic issues."

\* "Growing materialism" and individual and group competition that have "hastened the erosion of the old ideals and Jewish values centering in the idea of social justice."

The study also stated that to retain and strengthen support by the Western powers and by Jews in the diaspora, Israel should make "unmistakably clear" that its policies and negotiating stance in search for Middle East peace are based "squarely and unequivocally on security considerations."

### Situation Of Jews In The Diaspora

One of its major passages reads: "The classic Zionist ideology which denigrates the prospects for a secure or meaningful Jewish existence in the diaspora, and which conceives of diaspora existence as living in exile, is remote from the thinking of most Jews who live in free democratic societies. The persistent hopes and efforts of Israeli leaders and Zionist organizations to achieve substantial increases in aliya from Western diaspora communities cannot confidently be counted upon to achieve far greater success than they have achieved in the past."

Another key passage stated: "To forge stronger ties between Israel and the diaspora, we recommend that Israel, with the active participation of the diaspora, create a strong and dedicated Shalom Corps, whose members would spend a year or two abroad in response to requests from weaker communities for teachers, rabbis and other essential Jewish services."

The document was not formally presented to the assembly nor endorsed by resolution. Edgar Bronfman, president of the WJCongress, stated in his preface to the document: "Its independent conclusions and recommendations are naturally those of the Commission alone — the World Jewish Congress is neither responsible for nor committed to accept or support any of them. We do believe, however, that this thoughtful, sensitive and significant report warrants the serious consideration of concerned Jews everywhere." The study was initiated two years ago by Philip Klutznick who was then the WJCongress president.

### Key Members Of The Commission

Diaspora members of the study Commission included Bronfman; de Rothschild; Prof. Raymond Aron of France; Sir Monty Finniston of England; Henry Rosovsky, dean of the faculty of arts and sciences at Harvard University; Prof. Seymour Martin Lipset of Stanford University; and Sol Chaikin, International Ladies Garment Workers president.

Israeli members of the Commission included Haim Ben-Shahar, Tel Aviv University president; Naftali Blumenthal, president of Koor Industries; Ernst Japhet, chairman of Bank Leumi; Jacob Levinson, chairman of Bank Hapoalim; and Dan Talkowsky, managing director of Discount Bank Investment Group Ltd.

### Criticized By WZO Leaders

The document was sharply criticized by WZO leaders. Leon Dulzin, chairman of the WZO Executive, appointed an Executive subcommittee Monday to prepare the WZO's official response to the document. Subcommittee members include Eli Eyal, chairman of the WZO information department, who is the subcommittee's coordinator; Moshe Krone, Prof. Raanan Weitz, Eli Taviv and Avraham Schenker, all members of the Zionist Executive.

Dulzin advised against exaggerating the importance of the WJCongress. "This is a body which represents communities, and it cannot compete with the WZO," he said. WZO treasurer Akiva Lewinsky charged that too many monied individuals were on the WJCongress Commission, thereby distorting its findings. He said that although it was a document that could not be ignored, he was not ready to accept it as the unanimous voice of diaspora Jewry.

Krone, of the department of Torah culture in the diaspora, suggested that the Zionist Executive issue a protest against the actual publication of the document, since its authors exceeded their authority. Taviv said that the document was "chutzpah."

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JERUSALEM (JTA) — A Jerusalem magistrate's court on Wednesday extended for another 15 days the detention of the three Muadi brothers suspected of the murder of Bedouin MK Sheikh Hamad Abu Rabia.

Abu Rabia was murdered two weeks ago in front of a Jerusalem hotel. The three sons of his rival, Druze Sheikh Jaber Muadi, were detained by police the same night. The police said in court Wednesday that they had sufficient evidence tying the brothers to the murder — including their confessions, and the reconstruction of the actual murder. Meanwhile Sheikh Jaber is under heavy guard for fear for his life.