

# JTA daily news bulletin

Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency / 165 West 46th Street / New York, New York 10036  
U.S.C. J.T.A. CINCINNATI

Vol. LIX - 64th Year FEB 17 1981 Friday, February 13, 1981

No. 31

## FRANCE, EGYPT REACH TENTATIVE ACCORD FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF 8 NUCLEAR POWER STATIONS IN EGYPT

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Feb. 12 (JTA) -- France and Egypt have reached a tentative agreement for the construction of eight nuclear power stations in Egypt. President Anwar Sadat, on a three-day visit announced the project at a meeting with Egyptian students here last night.

The agreement is due to be signed by French Minister for Energy Andre Giraud and his Egyptian counterpart, Ahmed Ezzedine Hlail, before Sadat's departure tomorrow. It is understood that the project, one of the most ambitious yet developed by a Third World country, will provide all of Egypt's electric needs by the end of the century.

French and Egyptian sources stressed that the Franco-Egyptian nuclear cooperation program will be geared exclusively to peaceful usages. Other sources in Paris stressed, however, that the development of a nuclear industry, the construction of several nuclear power stations and the operation of research laboratories will provide Cairo with the expertise and means to develop a nuclear weapon should it chose to do so.

According to the agreement, reportedly finalized yesterday by Sadat and President Valery Giscard d'Estaing, Egyptian post-graduate students and nuclear engineers will be trained in France's nuclear installations. France, one of the world's main exporters of nuclear reactors, reportedly co-operated with Israel in the late 1950s to help develop Israel's own nuclear installations at Dimona. French officials say that the Egyptian project, if finalized, would be one of the largest contracts in the field.

### Sadat Meets Jewish Delegation

Sadat met today a French Jewish delegation to whom he said that the Camp David agreements remain "the cornerstone of my peace policy in the Middle East". A smiling and debonair Sadat, dressed in a turtle neck sweater and tennis shoes, told the delegation led by Alain de Rothschild, president of the Representative Council of Major Jewish Organizations in France (CRIF), "I rejoice not only every day but every moment about the peace process between Israel and Egypt."

Chief Rabbi Rene Sirat of France was also part of the delegation which apparently called on Sadat to try to further press upon the French government the need to support the Camp David agreements. A European Jewish delegation also called on Sadat when he last visited Paris three years ago. This time the delegation consisted exclusively of CRIF representatives.

### ISRAEL REJECTS U.S. CRITICISM OF ISRAEL'S SETTLEMENT ACTIONS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 12 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir flatly rejected Reagan Administration objections to Jewish settlements on the West Bank. He told a student audience at Bar Ilan University today that Israel would not have signed the peace

treaty with Egypt or the Camp David accords if they had mentioned any halt to Jewish settlements in the occupied territories.

Shamir's statement was seen as a response to the Reagan Administration's sharp criticism yesterday of Israel's West Bank settlement actions following reports that Israeli authorities are seizing or closing off large tracts of land on the West Bank for settlement purposes. Israel's Military Government on the West Bank announced Tuesday that some 4000 acres of unregistered land near Nablus is considered to be "state land."

Shamir said repeated mention had been made during the Camp David talks for the need for a free, strong and defensible Israel, and this was impossible if Israel were forced to return to the 1967 borders. "Our security calls for an Israeli presence in the whole of the Land of Israel, and this includes Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip," he said.

Shamir said that at his very first meeting with American officials during his visit to Washington next week he would lay great stress on Israel's need to ensure the country's security and ability to defend itself under any and all conditions.

The Foreign Minister said there might be room for debate on the timing of the siting of individual settlements, but not the need for defensive positions, which included civilian settlements. "Israel never agreed to halt settlements. There is no mention of it in the peace treaty. Quite the opposite... Israel would never have agreed to sign the peace treaty if we had not been sure of our right to settle Jews anywhere in the historic land of Israel."

### Urged Against Hasty Conclusions

Moshe Arens, chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, said the Administration's statement was an "unpleasant surprise." But Israel, he added, should not be too hasty in drawing conclusions. He noted President Reagan's statements before, during and after the elections to the effect that West Bank settlements were not illegal. "We are now hearing a different tune, but it is not yet certain whether there is a different policy," he told a radio interviewer, "if so, that would be serious and unpleasant."

As a proponent of massive Jewish settlement on the West Bank, Arens said: "For myself, saying settlements are an obstacle to peace is like saying Israel itself is an obstacle to peace." He said that though former President Carter had been against settlements, he was fully aware of Israel's strong views in their favor and still went ahead with the Camp David process. "Israel needs defense and security on the West Bank, and that is impossible without civilian settlements," Arens maintained.

### BEGIN EXPRESSES MIXED FEELINGS ABOUT SADAT'S LUXEMBOURG SPEECH

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Feb. 12 (JTA) -- Premier Menachem Begin said yesterday that he was pleased by President Anwar Sadat's solid commitment to the Camp David process, expressed in his speech to the Parliament of Europe in Luxembourg Tuesday. But he was less happy with Sadat's support of Palestinian self-determination.

Speaking to reporters, Begin noted with satisfaction that the Egyptian leader ignored the Palestine Liberation Organization in his speech and stressed to the Europeans that he had "not come to sell out Camp David." That, said Begin, was a "positive pronouncement." However, he recalled that at his summit meeting with Sadat in Ismailia in 1978, and later at Camp David, Israel flatly rejected Palestinian self-determination "because it means in plain terms a Palestinian state which would be a mortal danger to Israel."

Begin appeared to be optimistic of getting the autonomy talks underway again. He said if the Egyptians are ready to resume the negotiations, significant progress could be made before the Knesset elections June 30. Israel has not been told explicitly by Sadat that he did not want to resume the talks at this time, Begin said, adding that Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir would be discussing that matter when he meets with Secretary of State Alexander Haig in Washington next week.

Asked about prospects of his meeting with President Reagan, Begin said that "depends on Reagan: If he invites me, I will go." But, he added, he would not "invite myself, neither directly nor indirectly." So far, no signals have emanated from Washington that Reagan was likely to extend an invitation at the present time.

#### TERRORIST CELL UNCOVERED

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Feb. 12 (JTA) -- A terrorist cell in the Jerusalem area, allegedly responsible for terrorist acts over a period of several years, has been uncovered by security forces, it was announced today. An army spokesman said the seven members of the cell, linked to El Fatah, have confessed to acts of murder, sabotage and arson.

The cell was formed independently in 1978 but later joined El Fatah, the terrorist arm of the Palestine Liberation Organization. Security forces who arrested the suspects found a hand grenade, a pistol, detonators, chemicals used to prepare explosives and a wireless set.

Among the terrorist acts confessed by the suspects were the murder of an Israeli soldier, Avraham Deutsch, near the Rockefeller Museum three years ago; the murder of Moshe Yosefovich, a resident of B'nei Brak, near Gethsemane two years ago; and a hand grenade attack on the Dolphin Restaurant in East Jerusalem early this year. They are also suspected of two other murders, arms thefts and setting fire to cars.

#### WZO EXECUTIVE CRITICIZES WJC REPORT AND ACCUSES ITS AUTHORS OF FLIPPANCY TOWARD ZIONISM

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Feb. 12 (JTA) -- A report on Israel-diaspora relations and related economic and social matters, submitted to the World Jewish Congress sixth plenary assembly here last month, was sharply criticized by the World Zionist Organization Executive which accused the authors of flippancy toward Zionism.

The 119-page report was issued by the WJC's 33-member International Economic and Social Commission chaired by Baron Guy de Rothschild of Paris. The committee comprises prominent financiers, industrialists and civic leaders representing both Israel and major Jewish communities

abroad. "The Zionist Executive is confident that the World Jewish Congress will not endorse this paper and the Executive will object to any proposals to do so," the WZO statement released here said.

The report contained several points that aroused controversy here. It endorsed the right of diaspora Jews to criticize policies of any Israeli government; rejected the Zionist tenet that diaspora Jews live in exile; expressed the view that aliyah from Western countries will not increase substantially in the future; and asserted that Jews who choose not to settle in Israel should not feel guilty or be made to feel guilty.

"We point out that some of the conclusions in the report of this committee do not represent the position of the Zionist Executive, nor, as stated by its (WJC) president Edgar Bronfman, does the report represent the position of the WJC and its conclusions are not binding," the WZO statement said. It expressed "regret" that "the committee, and especially the several Israeli financiers and industrialists permitted themselves to pass judgement on Zionism so flippantly."

It observed that the report, "although interesting, carries no more weight than that of other Israelis and Jews at large. It is a pity that these opinions were presented in the form of a report whose importance was exaggerated by the fact that it was presented under the auspices of the WJC ... It is regrettable that the difficult times that Israel is experiencing at the moment lead Israelis to yearn for the mirage of galut," the WZO executive said. "This rashly made attempt to negate classical Zionism in no way helps deal effectively with the recent problems of Jewish existence."

The report was not formally presented to the WJC assembly nor endorsed by resolution. Bronfman stated, in his preface to the report: "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."

#### N. Y. FIRM TO PAY \$6,000 CIVIL PENALTY FOR BOYCOTT VIOLATION

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12 (JTA) -- The W.A. Baum Co. of Copiague, N.Y., manufacturer of blood pressure measuring devices, has agreed to pay a civil penalty of \$6,000 for violating the U.S. laws against the Arab boycott of American companies doing business with Israel, the U.S. Department of Commerce has announced.

The Department said the Baum firm was fined \$5,000 for furnishing prohibited information in response to a boycott request from Abu Dhabi and \$1,000 for failing to report the request.

In a letter to John Baum, president of the company, the Department said Baum signed a distributorship agreement dated July 11, 1979 with persons in Abu Dhabi stating "there is no Israel interest, influence, labor or ownership in the W.A. Baum Company, Inc." The Department alleged that Baum also failed to report this statement.

Erich Hirschhorn, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for export administration, said the \$1,000 fine exceeded some recent penalties for reporting violations because "the matter was discovered through the independent investigative efforts of the Office of Antiboycott Compliance and not voluntarily revealed by the firm. All things being equal, the fact that a firm discovers its own mistakes and brings them to us will be a significant mitigating factor."

#### ROCKEFELLER IN ISRAEL TO INSPECT JEWISH SETTLEMENTS ON WEST BANK

TEL AVIV, Feb. 12 (JTA) -- Chase Manhattan Bank president David Rockefeller arrived in Israel

today, on a two-day visit to inspect Jewish settlements on the West Bank. He explained to reporters who accompanied him on his tour, under the guidance of Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon, that he had been in Israel many times before but had never seen the West Bank settlements.

"I am here as an observer. I've been in Israel many times before but have never seen these settlements. This is a matter under much discussion and I wanted to see them for myself, at first hand," he said.

During the tour — a rushed visit during which the guests did not even have time to drink the coffee offered them by the settlers — Sharon repeatedly stressed the defense aspects of the settlements. "Look at this land. You can see that it is all government-owned and unworked; only rocks and never used till now," Sharon said.

And Rockefeller repeatedly asked: "Can you see the Jordan from here?" Rockefeller declined to say what he thought of the Jewish settlements on the West Bank or comment on the Reagan Administration's view that they do not help the peace negotiations. (By Hugh Orgel)

#### **SPECIAL TO THE JTA** **RANKING VATICAN SPOKESMAN SAYS** **RECENT PAPAL ENCYCLICAL BEING** **STUDIED WITH VIEW TOWARD ANSWERING** **QUESTIONS RAISED BY MANY JEWS**

By Lisa Palmieri-Billig

ROME, Feb. 12 (JTA) — A ranking spokesman for the Vatican's Commission for Religious Relations With The Jews has informed the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that a passage in a Papal Encyclical offensive to Jews is "being studied and there will be a reply" to the questions raised by many Jews all over the world. "How and when the reply will be given has yet to be determined," the Vatican official told the JTA in the course of an exclusive interview on the matter.

The passage referred to was contained in the Nov. 30, 1980 Encyclical, "Dives in Misericordia," delivered by Pope John Paul II. The Encyclical, which dealt with distortions of justice in the modern world, stated in Part VI, Section 12: "Not in vain did Christ challenge his listeners, faithful to the doctrine of the Old Testament, for their attitude which was manifested in the words 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' This was the form of distortion of justice at that time and today's forms continue to be modeled on it."

#### **Many Letters Received**

The Vatican spokesman told the JTA that the Commission "has received many letters from Jews all over the world" and that "the great majority of these letters contain high praise for the Pope's Encyclical, while at the same time many point out that this one particular passage has created difficulties."

A letter sent nearly two months ago by Henry Siegman, executive director of the American Jewish Congress, observed that "This passage misrepresents the Judaism of the time of Jesus, which in fact understood and interpreted the Biblical 'eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth' to require monetary compensation for injury inflicted on one's fellow man. Indeed, there is no evidence that it was ever interpreted in Judaism to require or permit inflicting of physical injury."

Siegman and other Jews who studied the Encyclical pointed out further, in letters to the Vatican Commission, that the offensive passage

flatly contradicted a preceding chapter of the Encyclical — Part III Section 4 — which was dedicated to in-depth research and interpretation of the various Hebrew expressions for mercy, such as "hesed" and "rahamin" as attributes of God according to the Jewish conception.

That passage was in effect nullified by the disparaging remarks in the later section. According to Siegman, it is a step backwards "inconsistent with both the letter and spirit of the Vatican guidelines for implementation of Nostra Aetate of 1975" which urged Catholics not to set "the Old Testament against the New Testament in such a way that the former seems to constitute a religion of only justice, fear and legalism with no appeal to the love of God and neighbor."

#### **Steps Taken To Mollify Jews**

When the JTA first solicited comment from Vatican sources more than a month ago, it was told that Vatican circles were aware of the problems created by the passage in question. But Jewish hopes that the Vatican would correct it seemed doomed to disappointment because an Encyclical cannot be modified once it has been delivered.

"Clarification" was, of course, possible, the JTA was told. But the initiative first had to be approved and coordinated at high levels since any such step would be considered "official" with all the consequences attached.

Nevertheless, the Vatican has since taken at least two actions that appear intended to mollify Jews and demonstrate good-will. The first was the invitation by the Vicar of Rome, Cardinal Poletti, to Chief Rabbi Elio Toaff to meet with the Pope in a parish church bordering the old ghetto. That meeting occurred last Sunday and was hailed by the Rome Jewish community as an event of historic import.

The second gesture, on the same day, was the publication in the Vatican newspaper Osservatore Romano of a front page article titled, "Clarification—Dives in Misericordia: An Encyclical for Christians and Jews." The author is Pinhas Lapide, an Israeli scholar who lives in Germany. His article expanded on the Encyclical's section on the Old Testament which emphasized the "merciful" qualities of the Jewish vision of God which, he said, entirely coincide with the Catholic vision.

#### **SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL TO HOLD** **PARLEY IN ISRAEL ON JUNE 12**

JERUSALEM, Feb. 12 (JTA) — The Socialist International is to hold an executive meeting in Israel on June 12, just 18 days before the Israeli elections. Word of the meeting emerged here this evening. It followed extensive unpublished contacts between Israel's Labor Party and the Socialist International leadership under former German Chancellor Willy Brandt.

Among those expected to attend the executive session will be Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, who has never before visited Israel, Brandt himself, and other top European government and opposition figures, including French Socialist leader Francois Mitterand.

Political observers in Israel immediately interpreted the socialist international's scheduling of the first-ever session in Israel as a deliberate effort to help Israel's Labor Party in the election campaign.

\*\*\*

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Manufacturers Association president Avraham Shavit is in South Africa at the invitation of its Finance Minister, Owen Harwood, to examine the possibility of strengthening economic ties with enterprises there.

## ADL URGES LEGISLATION TO OUTLAW PARAMILITARY TRAINING CAMPS RUN BY KKK AND OTHER EXTREMIST GROUPS

PALM BEACH, Fla., Feb. 12 (JTA) — The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith is urging state authorities to adopt legislation outlawing paramilitary training camps run by the Ku Klux Klan or other extremist groups — and made public a model statute.

The statute, drawn up by ADL's national Law Department, calls for imprisonment and/or fines against those found guilty of operating paramilitary training camps or receiving training there, it was announced here at a session of ADL's national executive committee meeting at The Breakers Hotel.

Seymour Reich, chairman of ADL's National Civil Rights Committee, told some 200 participants attending the four-day meeting which ends Sunday that the model law would make training in the use of firearms, explosives, incendiary devices or techniques that kill or injure people a crime when it is for the intention of provoking civil disorder.

The ADL, which has monitored Klan activities since the 1920's, disclosed in a nationwide survey last October that the Klan is engaged in paramilitary activities in six states and urged regular FBI surveillance to protect Americans from terrorism and violence perpetrated by "armed racists."

### ADL Proposes A Model Statute

Patterned after the 1968 federal Civil Obedience Act, the model law, according to Reich, is an "effective and legally sound local response to the proliferation of extremist-operated paramilitary camps." It was drafted after a canvass by the ADL's regional offices revealed that there is a pressing need for state laws that directly deal with paramilitary training.

Reich said that according to available information, the Civil Obedience Act has not resulted in any arrest of Klan paramilitary instructors. The federal law, unlike the ADL model statute which makes teaching or participating in paramilitary training a criminal offense, applies only to teaching.

Reich pointed out that state laws would for the first time enable local authorities to crack down on Klan paramilitary camps.

The ADL model law is based upon the federal statute which has been tested by the courts and upheld on constitutional grounds. Reich said the ADL had drawn the model as precisely as possible to prohibit only those activities "which one is constitutionally permitted to proscribe."

The activities referred to, he emphasized, involved paramilitary training and exempt lawful activities such as rifle range training and karate club activities.

### Areas Of KKK Activities

In its October report on the Klan, the ADL pointed out that FBI monitoring of the KKK was sharply curtailed in 1976 by guidelines — issued in response to charges of the abuse of FBI powers — which require evidence of actual or imminent violence before investigating Klan activities.

The report named Alabama, Connecticut, Illinois, North Carolina and Texas as sites of paramilitary training and cited California as a Klan distribution center for instructional manuals and handbooks on terrorism.

In Alabama, for example, Reich said, the Invisible Empire, Knights of the KKK, run by Bill Wilkinson, operates a campsite near Cullman, AL. which has been dubbed "My Lai." Training there includes target practice with M-16 semi-automatic rifles, obstacle course proficiency, study of guerrilla tactics and practice search and destroy missions.

### HOLOCAUST HERO HONORED; MEDAL FOR RAOUL WALLENBERG

NEW YORK, Feb. 12 (JTA) — The Judaic Heritage Society has dedicated its Annual Award Medal to Raoul Wallenberg whose single-handed efforts during World War II saved tens of thousands of Jews from the Nazi death machine in Hungary. Robert Weber, president of the Society, who made the announcement of the award, said that "While world leaders made speeches, Wallenberg, a Swedish Christian, took individual action. He showed the world that one man can make a difference."

Wallenberg disappeared in Budapest on January 17, 1945, in the custody of two Russian officers. Over the years since then, the Soviet authorities have alternately denied all knowledge of Wallenberg or claimed that he was no longer alive. The growing interest in the fate of Wallenberg culminated last months in the convening of an international conference in Sweden. The conference heard new evidence from a series of witnesses reporting sightings of Wallenberg in the 1950s and 1960s, including extensive details about his detention in the Soviet Union. The conference passed a unanimous resolution declaring its belief that the Swedish diplomat is still alive.

The Raoul Wallenberg Award Medal is sculpted by noted artist Karen Worth from a design by Oldrich Tepy. The medal is 1 1/2-inches in diameter. It is issued in four limited editions: bronze 5,000 medals; silver-plated 2,500 medals; solid sterling silver 1,000 medals; solid 14 karat gold 120 medals. Bronze medals are \$15 each, silver-plated, \$25, solid sterling silver, \$95, solid 14 karat gold, \$900. Each medal is accompanied by a complimentary lucite display stand.

### 52 SOVIET JEWISH REFUSNIKS EXPRESS JOY ON HOSTAGE RELEASE

NEW YORK, Feb. 12 (JTA) — Fifty-two Moscow Jewish refusniks have written to President Reagan expressing their "great joy" on the release of the 52 American hostages from Iran and, in reference to their own plight, asked if "right has also triumphed," it was reported here by the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry and the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews. The 52 Moscovites also requested that their sympathies be conveyed "to the families and friends of those who gave their lives attempting to free the hostages."

"Now that justice has finally prevailed," they continued, "we must ask you, Mr. President — has right also triumphed? To us, that is the most important question. There can be no peace and prosperity on earth without respect for law and morality." Among the signers were long-term refusniks Prof. Alexander Lerner, Pavel Abramovich, Vladimir Prestin and Lev Bliststein.

Meanwhile, Dr. Alla Drugova, wife of former Prisoner of Conscience Dr. Joseph Begun, has been refused an exit visa for herself and their two sons on the grounds that her husband has access to "state secrets". From March 1977 until recent months Dr. Begun had served two sentences of internal banishment to Siberia, and is presently forbidden to live in Moscow with his family.