

# JTA daily news bulletin

Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency / 165 West 46th Street / New York, New York 10036  
H.U.C.-J.I.R. CINCINNATI

Vol. LIX - 64th Year JUN 29 1981

Thursday, June 25, 1981

No. 120

## LEADING CONGRESSMEN WARN REAGAN TO CANCEL SALE OF WEAPONS TO SAUDIS OR FACE 'HUMILIATING DEFEAT'

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, June 24 (JTA) -- President Reagan was urged by leading members of the Senate and House today to withdraw his Administration's proposed arms package sale to Saudi Arabia or risk "a humiliating defeat" and the danger of dividing the nation.

Sen. Bob Packwood (R. Ore.) told a press conference at the Capitol this morning that 54 Senators, a majority of the Senate, have signed his letter to the President, urging him not to sell the five AWACS reconnaissance aircraft, enhancement equipment for F-15 fighter and other items in the proposed package for Saudi Arabia.

"It is our deep belief that this sale is not in the best interest of the United States, and therefore recommend that you refrain from sending this proposal to Congress," the letter said.

At a press conference a short while later in a House office building, Reps. Clarence Long (D. Md.) and Norman Lent (R. NY) said their resolution of disapproval of the sale has 224 supporters, a majority of the House. Long added that at least 75 others have told him and Lent that they would support the resolution but did not want to sign the item now to avoid pressure from the White House. Pressure from the White House is expected to begin soon since the Administration said last night that it plans to go ahead with the sale.

Once the Administration formally notifies Congress -- which it is expected to do some time after the July 4 holiday -- it requires a majority vote of both houses to defeat the sale. Packwood said that at least two to four other Senators told him they would sign the letter. He said this was why the President should not even send the sale to Congress to avoid a "divisive debate" that would split both parties, Congress, the nation and the allies of the U.S.

### Foes Of Sale Claim Majorities

Packwood said his letter was signed by 20 Republicans and 34 Democrats. Long also warned that Reagan risked a "humiliating defeat" and problems with his own party in the 1982 Congressional elections. He said the Long-Lent resolution of disapproval was signed by 54 Republicans and 74 Democrats from 38 states and covered the entire political spectrum.

Lent said he was informed that of the 100 resolutions of disapproval introduced in the House so far, this was the first to have more than 200 cosponsors and it was done before the issue was ever formally presented to Congress.

Packwood noted that his letter to Reagan was signed after Israel's raid on Iraq's nuclear plant on June 7 which, he said indicated that the raid had no effect on attitudes toward the AWACS sale.

The letter to Reagan from the Senators said that one of the most important reasons to reject the sale "is the fact that the Saudis have not

chosen a constructive role in the Camp David process." Packwood said that the Saudis have been an "impediment" to efforts to establish peace in the Middle East. He said that when the Senate approved the sale of 62 F-15s to Saudi Arabia in 1978, it was promised that the Saudis would play a moderating role for peace in the Middle East. Instead, Packwood said, the Saudis opposed the Camp David agreements and have boycotted Egypt for signing a peace treaty with Israel.

"Our interest is served by peace in the Middle East," Packwood said. "Saudi Arabia is not moving in the direction of what is our interest."

Sen. Henry Jackson (D. Wash.) who, along with Sens. Roger Jepsen (R. Iowa) and Rudy Boschwitz (R. Minn.) joined Packwood at the press conference, said giving the Saudis AWACS would not provide for the regional security which the U.S. wants. He said the U.S. should not provide Saudi Arabia with what "we do not provide our NATO allies."

### Fear Sale To An 'Unstable Regime'

Jackson explained that the AWACS used by NATO are under command of Americans even though they may have some foreign staff aboard. He said this also is true of four AWACS the U.S. moved into Saudi Arabia last year because of the Iraqi-Iranian war and which are under complete command of Americans, even though some Saudis are aboard. He said he would prefer this type of situation continue rather than selling AWACS to the Saudis.

Jepsen and Boschwitz said they feared selling AWACS to Saudi Arabia because it was an unstable regime and there was the possibility that this highly sophisticated equipment could fall into Soviet hands. "There are very few issues in which I would break with this Administration on foreign policy," Jepsen said. But he said the overthrow of the Shah's regime in Iran had convinced him that it was dangerous to place such sophisticated weapons in the hands of unstable regimes that could be overthrown at any time.

Packwood rejected the argument that if the U.S. did not sell the Saudis the weapons, they could buy them from Britain or France. He said that while that may be true, the Saudis know that if they are in danger only the U.S. would help them and "that is a bargaining chip we give away too early."

Lent was the only speaker today who dealt directly with the F-15s. He said he informed Reagan that "from its inception, I have regarded the sale of F-15 aircraft to Saudi Arabia as a cave-in to Arab blackmail." He said "giving those aircraft an awesome new offensive capacity simply worsens the situation."

Long said that by providing weapons to Saudi Arabia, Israel would seek additional arms to make up for what it considers a new threat to its security. He noted that Israel does not want to concentrate on its defenses rather than its troubled economy but "it feels it has to."

### BEGIN REJECTS U.S. LEAK CHARGE

JERUSALEM, June 24 (JTA) -- Premier Menachem Begin's office reacted sharply today to an oblique reproach from the State Department over Begin's alleged leakage of confidential information passed



between the U.S. and Israel. The matter involved a document Begin was said to have received last January from U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis expressing American concern that Iraq was planning to build a nuclear bomb.

Israel Radio reported Monday that Begin cited that document in the course of explaining to the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee his decision to order the June 7 air raid on Iraq's nuclear reactor. Yesterday, a State Department spokesman, David Passage, observed, "We do not discuss the nature of sensitive exchanges that we have with foreign governments including friendly foreign governments." He added, in what was viewed as a rebuke to Begin, that even if "Prime Ministers" were prepared to discuss private exchanges with the U.S., "I am not."

Begin's office stated today that "The Prime Minister did not publish" a U.S. intelligence assessment. He did transmit "the contents of a certain document to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee in accordance with his parliamentary and democratic obligation," the statement said, adding that the committee's deliberations are "totally secret and every member has signed an affidavit to the effect that we will not disclose any detail of its deliberations."

The Prime Minister's Office observed further that "If we are discussing leaks, Washington's experience is no less rich than that of Jerusalem." It went on to imply that the leak from the Knesset committee was the work of an opposition member with the deliberate purpose of embarrassing the government and adversely affecting relations between Jerusalem and Washington.

#### STATE DEPT. DEFENDS SAUDI ARMS DEAL AS IN 'NATIONAL INTEREST'

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, June 24 (JTA) -- The Reagan Administration said today that the sale of AWACS reconnaissance aircraft and other weapons to Saudi Arabia are in "the national interests" of the United States and expressed confidence that once Congress sees the "total package" it will not reject the sale.

"We understand the concerns that have been expressed by the Senators and Congressmen," David Passage, a State Department spokesman, said shortly after calls were issued on Capitol Hill for the Administration not to send its arms package to Congress lest it suffer a foreign policy defeat.

"The Administration views the sale of the AWACS as being important to U.S. national interests," Passage said. "We are confident that when we present the full package to Congress it will be better understood and we will be able to meet the concerns expressed by the Senators and Congressmen. We would hope the Congressmen and Senators would reserve their positions on the sale until such time as we are able to discuss the entire package," he said.

But Passage would not give any details of the package which he said is still being worked out between governments and with the leaders of Congress. Nor would he give any indication of when the proposed sale would be formally submitted to Congress.

Passage said that the arms were being sold to Saudi Arabia because the U.S. has an "important relationship" with that country. He said the Israeli raid on Iraq's nuclear reactor June 7 had no connection with any decisions being made on the arms sale to Saudi Arabia. (See earlier story on Page 1.)

#### ISRAEL BASKETBALL TEAM BEATS U.S. SQUAD IN QUEENS EXHIBITION

By Haskell Cohen

FLUSHING, NY, June 23 (JTA) -- The Maccabi Tel Aviv basketball team, fresh from its European Cup Club championship victory, defeated the United States Maccabiah team, 91 to 83 in an exhibition match here at Queens College last night. Maccabi Tel Aviv was led by Aulcie Perry, who scored 29 points, and Lou Silver, who scored 20. Perry is a veteran of the American Basketball Association and the National Basketball Association; Silver is a graduate of Harvard University.

The U.S. Maccabiah Team, which had just three practices under head coach Sam Stern before the match, was led by Hal Cohen's game-high 31 points, Dan Schayes' 16 points and Willie Sims' 12 points and seven assists. The U.S. team led through most of the game and held a 79-76 lead with about five minutes remaining. Maccabi Tel Aviv went on a 15-4 spurt, however, to close out the game.

"It was a close game all the way and I think we could have won with more practice and with our full contingent of players," said Maccabiah's Schayes, a graduate of Syracuse who recently was drafted in the first round by the NBA's Utah Jazz. A National Collegiate Athletic Association ruling prevented the U.S. Maccabiah Team from using any undergraduate players, thus blocking the participation of such talents as Alan Dolinsky and Adam Cohen who will accompany the team when it leaves for Israel to compete in the 11th Maccabiah as the defending champions.

Hal Cohen, a graduate of Syracuse who now attends medical school there, shot 14 to 21 from the floor and added five assists to his game-leading points. Sims, an alumnus of Louisiana State University who was drafted by the NBA's Denver Nuggets, shot just five for 20 but created numerous scoring opportunities with his crisp passing.

Perry had a game-high 12 rebounds for Tel Aviv while Silver and Howard Lasoff chipped in with nine rebounds each. Shuki Schwartz also aided the team's effort with 16 points. Maccabi Tel Aviv next heads for Brazil to compete in the World Cup Club Championships. The U.S. Maccabiah Team leaves for Israel on July 3. The 11th Maccabiah runs from July 6 through July 16.

#### STATE DEPT. DENIES REPORTS HAIG DIFFERED WITH UN ENVOY

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, June 24 (JTA) -- The State Department denied today press reports that Secretary of State Alexander Haig was displeased by the way U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, Jeane Kirkpatrick, had negotiated last week's Security Council resolution condemning Israel for its raid on Iraq's nuclear reactor June 7.

David Passage, a State Department spokesman, said that Mrs. Kirkpatrick was "unusually skillful" in the behind-the-scenes negotiations and kept both Haig and President Reagan fully informed. Passage praised Kirkpatrick after he was questioned about reports by newsmen aboard Haig's plane enroute from New Zealand to Hawaii, quoting aides to Haig as critical of the way the UN envoy handled the negotiations.

The aides were reported as saying that Haig had to intervene personally from Peking and Manila to ensure that the resolution adopted was not overly injurious to Israel. Passage said Kirkpatrick consulted Haig on "every step along the road" when the resolution was being worked out. He said that when any



new paragraphs in the resolution were brought up, they were immediately sent to Haig for his approval or recommended changes.

Passage said he doubted the stories because of many "factual errors" he said he found in them. He pointed specifically to a statement that Haig would recall U.S. special envoy Philip Habib from the Middle East before Israel's parliamentary elections on June 30. Habib is presently in Beirut and Passage said there were no plans now to recall him.

#### 'IRAQ'S OPEN CALL' FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS 'CONFIRMS' ISRAEL'S FEARS

NEW YORK, June 24 (JTA) -- Rabbi William Berkowitz, president of the Jewish National Fund, said today that "Iraq's open call" for Arab nuclear weapons "confirms Israel's fears that the Baghdad regime was building an atomic bomb for use against the Jewish state and further justifies Israel's action in destroying the reactor at Osirak."

Rabbi Berkowitz, speaking to JNF leaders at a reception honoring Paul Kedar, Israel's Consul-General in New York, who is returning home, cited an address by President Saddam Hussein of Iraq broadcast by Baghdad radio yesterday.

In it, Saddam Hussein asked "all peace-loving nations in the world" to help Arabs acquire atomic arms to balance what he described as Israel's nuclear capability. The Iraqi president added, "No power can stop Iraq from acquiring technological and scientific knowhow to serve its national objectives."

Commenting, Rabbi Berkowitz said: "Iraq has made no secret of those 'national objectives.' They are nothing less than the destruction of the Jewish state, with which Iraq has been at war since 1948 and whose very legitimacy Iraq refuses to acknowledge."

The JNF leader quoted from a speech by Saddam Hussein last August threatening to boycott any state that continued to keep its embassy in Jerusalem and adding: "A better decision would be to destroy Tel Aviv with bombs. But we have to use the weapons available until it is actually possible to respond to the enemy with bombs. The other Arab brothers can help us in this respect."

Rabbi Berkowitz told the JNF leaders: "Saddam Hussein has made no secret of his determination to acquire nuclear weapons for the purpose of attacking Israel. When he announced that Tel Aviv was the eventual target of Iraqi bombs, he was already acquiring the nuclear technology and materials necessary to produce atomic bombs, a process made possible by the impotence of the so-called inspection procedures called for by the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty."

"Israel was justified in removing this awesome threat to its existence. Now Saddam Hussein uses the Israeli raid as justification for his production of nuclear weaponry, giving the lie to his earlier claims that Iraq has not engaged in such development," Rabbi Berkowitz said.

#### HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR GROUPS PLAN INTENSIVE DRIVE FOR ISRAEL BONDS

NEW YORK, June 24 (JTA) -- The American Federation of Jewish Fighters, Camp Inmates and Nazi Victims, which represents a number of Holocaust survivors organizations, has announced that it will undertake an intensive campaign in the United States and Canada for the sale of Israel Bonds beginning this month and culminating at a national "New Life" Israel Bond dinner to be held

in November. The announcement was made by Solomon Zynstein, President of the Federation. The leaders of the campaign are Eli Zborowsky, honorary president of the Federation, who will serve as national chairman while Miles Lerman will serve as national coordinator. Lerman is a member of the U.S. President's Holocaust Memorial Commission. He is also national president of the Ambassador's Society of Trustees of the Israel Bond Organization.

The campaign will include local dinners of tribute in honor of individuals who have survived the Holocaust and who have attained success or recognition in various fields, including the business world, philanthropy, science, education, communal service and the arts.

Following the local dinners, the honorees will also receive special recognition at the national "New Life" dinner in New York. A special "New Life" Award, with the theme "Preserve and Remember," will be presented to the honorees for their "extraordinary efforts to help build a new life for the Jewish people through dedication to the cause of Israel Bonds," Zynstein said.

#### ISRAEL NAMES CONSUL FOR INFORMATION FOR WESTERN U.S.

JERUSALEM, June 24 (JTA) -- Yoram Ben-Ze'ev, one of the Israeli Foreign Ministry's up-and-coming diplomats, has been named consul in charge of information for the United States west coast area. He will be based at the Consulate-General in Los Angeles.

Ben-Ze'ev, a 36-year-old father of two, began his overseas career almost a decade ago in Hong Kong, where he was sent by the Ministry to study Chinese for two years. After that, he served as First Secretary at the Embassy in the Philippines. He holds a Masters degree in international relations from the Hebrew University and currently serves as deputy spokesman of the Ministry in Jerusalem. His wife, Miri, is a video-film editor.

#### KLAUW SAYS EEC INITIATIVE CAN BE IN ACCORD WITH CAMP DAVID

AMSTERDAM, June 24 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Christoph Van der Klaauw said yesterday that the European initiative in the Middle East can proceed alongside the Camp David accords and not in conflict with it. He said he had discussed the Middle East conflict with U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig while they were attending the Asian Conference in Manila last week and that Haig agreed that the European initiative was "very helpful" and should continue.

Van der Klaauw spoke in Luxembourg after briefing the European Economic Community's (EEC) Council of Ministers, of which he is currently chairman, on his recent visits to the Middle East. He stressed that the European peace mission must be continued in close cooperation with the U.S. He said he was convinced by his separate visits to the Arab countries and Israel that a solution to the Middle East conflict was urgent. The Council of Ministers will discuss the matter early next week on the basis of his report which is divided into four chapters.

They are the status of Jerusalem; the evacuation by Israel of the occupied Arab territories; the right of self-determination for the Palestinians; and secure borders for Israel. Van der Klaauw said the European initiative was received favorably in most countries that he visited, though Israel was critical of it. The Dutch diplomat will hand over the rotating chairmanship of the EEC Council of Ministers to British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington on July 1.



## 20 NOBEL LAUREATES CABLE PROTEST TO U.S.S.R. ON BRAILOVSKY SENTENCING

NEW YORK, June 24 (JTA) -- Twenty Nobel laureates cabled Soviet authorities to protest the "sentencing of an innocent man," computer scientist Viktor Brailovsky, to five years of internal exile. They deplored this "miscarriage of justice" and urged Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev and the president of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, A.P. Aleksandrov, to "secure his release and permit his emigration."

Pointing to Brailovsky's dedication to science, the Nobelists stated in their cable, "... we salute his determination in the face of overwhelming obstacles."

The signers include Philip Anderson, Christian Anfinsen, Julius Axelrod, Felix Bloch, Walter Houser Brattain, Herbert Brown, Owen Chamberlain, Val Fitch, Paul Flory, Sheldon Glashow, Gerhard Herzberg, Robert Holley, Arthur Kornberg, Polykarp Kisch, Daniel Nathans, Arno Penzias, Frederick Chapman Robbins, Howard Temin, George Wald, and Rosalyn Yalow.

Brailovsky was charged with circulating "fabrications known to be false which defame the Soviet state" in connection with his efforts in support of the emigration movement. But the laureates' message affirmed that "Since the right to emigrate has been endorsed by the Soviet Union in the Helsinki Final Act, Brailovsky's activities cannot be construed as defamatory to the Soviet state."

Mindful of the fact that the sentence will be appealed, the Nobelists indicated their hope that their intervention will result in a shortening of the sentence or a reversal of the verdict, paving the way for Brailovsky's emigration.

## UNIQUE CHANCE TO WIN JEWS TO ORTHODOXY SEEN AT CONCLAVE

SPRING GLEN, N.Y., June 24 (JTA) -- A leading Orthodox rabbi, asserting that Orthodox Judaism is the fastest growing Jewish religious movement, declared here today that it was "high time" that Orthodoxy abandon a "state of siege" mentality which he said "may have been appropriate for an era when Orthodoxy had to adopt a defensive stance because it was widely dismissed as an obsolete religion -- allegedly incompatible with the spirit of modernity."

Rabbi Walter Wurzburger, past president of the Rabbinical Council of America, made that statement in an address to the 45th annual convention of the association of Orthodox rabbis. He added that "Under the impact of the Holocaust, the rise of the State of Israel and the growing isolation of Israel in the United Nations, as well as the general malaise afflicting modern society, we witness an unprecedented openness and responsiveness to the message of Orthodox Judaism."

Rabbi Wurzburger warned that the "resurgence of Orthodoxy at a time when assimilation and intermarriage exact such a heavy toll, must not give rise to a sense of triumphalism. Instead Orthodoxy must rise above all partisanship, institutionalism or sectarian concerns, and embark on an all-out effort to expose even so-called marginal Jews to the value system and way of life of its heritage."

Rabbi Wurzburger also said "it would be a horrendous catastrophe were we to squander our unique opportunity to create at this juncture of history a mass Teshuvah (return to religious values) movement."

## EXPERTS AGREE IRAQ COULD HAVE MADE A-BOMB IN THREE YEARS

By Kevin Freeman

NEW YORK, June 24 (JTA) -- Two nuclear experts here agreed today that, at its present rate of development, Iraq would have been able to manufacture an atomic bomb within three years if its nuclear reactor had not been destroyed by Israeli aircraft June 7.

However, a discrepancy emerged between the two experts as to whether Iraq had such nuclear technological ability and, as a signator of the Non-proliferation Treaty, whether Iraq could have carried on such a clandestine operation without detection by International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspectors.

The experts -- Dr. Herbert Kouts, chairman of the energy department at the Brookhaven National Laboratory and a member of IAEA, and Dr. Herbert Goldstein, professor of nuclear science and engineering at Columbia University -- addressed a conference on Iraq's nuclear weapons capabilities, sponsored by the American Professors for Peace in the Middle East.

Kouts contended that the processing stage of extracting plutonium, a key component in atomic weapons production, from uranium that has been exposed to neutrons within the reactor was a stage in weapons production that could have easily been achieved by Iraq. But he said the second stage of converting the plutonium to a metal form essential to atomic weapons development was more difficult. He added "this is a competence well beyond most countries." He said Iraq's "objectives" had to be compared with the "realities" of its nuclear technological skills.

Meanwhile, Goldstein said he found it difficult to see Iraq's type of research reactor being used for peaceful purposes, noting that it "was entirely too large and powerful to be used for medical purposes." He said that in this country, a research reactor for medical purposes is somewhere between 1/20 and 1/50 the size of the reactor being built in Iraq.

## JEWISH FORUM HEARS PREDICTION CONGRESS WILL BAN AWACS SALE

WASHINGTON, June 24 (JTA) -- A New York Republican warned here last week that Israel's raid on Iraq's nuclear reactor June 7 would give certain members of the Senate a convenient excuse for voting in favor of the AWACS aircraft sale to Saudi Arabia. But Rep. John LeBoutillier predicted that the sale would be vetoed later this year by the Congress should the Reagan Administration decide to go ahead with it.

LeBoutillier spoke at a meeting sponsored by the Washington chapter of the American Jewish Forum, a group recently organized by politically conservative Jews. He defended Israel's destruction of Iraq's nuclear facility and charged that those who criticized it were enemies of Israel.

Nevertheless, he contended that despite mixed signals coming out of the White House in the wake of the raid, the American Jewish community would find that "Ronald Reagan is the best friend Israel ever had" in the White House. With respect to the AWACS, LeBoutillier suggested that a better alternative would be for the U.S. to "lease" the intelligence-gathering aircraft to the Saudis while maintaining ownership and control over how they are employed. He claimed that this position was favored by Secretary of State Alexander Haig.