

## ISRAEL AND FRANCE APPEAR TO BE MENDING THEIR POLITICAL FENCES

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Sept. 22 (JTA) -- The strains that have troubled relations between France and Israel in recent years seemed to ease perceptibly with the visit here of Jacques Attali, a special advisor and close personal associate of President Francois Mitterrand. Attali had a "very friendly" 90-minute meeting with Premier Menachem Begin yesterday at which both parties stressed that "a new leaf" must be turned in Franco-Israeli relations.

Attali arrived in Israel last Sunday on what was officially a private trip but his meetings were of a political nature and he managed to avoid the press for the most part. Significantly, France and Israel announced jointly in New York yesterday that French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson had accepted the invitation of his Israeli counterpart, Yitzhak Shamir, to visit Israel in December and that Mitterrand would visit early next year.

Attali carried a message to Begin from Mitterrand and another to President Yitzhak Navon with whom the French diplomat also met yesterday. Their contents were not disclosed. He met today with David Kimche, Director General of the Foreign Ministry, and was scheduled to meet later today with Shimon Peres, chairman of the opposition Labor Party, before leaving for Cairo.

### Effort To Balance French Mideast Policy

When he arrived in Israel, Attali would say only that Franco-Israeli relations were very complex. He was invited here by the Davis Institute of the Hebrew University where he delivered a lecture on "France in the Mitterrand era." After his meeting with Begin, Attali told reporters that Mitterrand was making a special effort to "balance" French Mideast policy. He said the scheduled visits to Israel by Cheysson and Mitterrand were expressions of that policy.

He said his discussions with Begin were "deep and friendly" and that they had covered Middle East problems in detail and relations between their countries. He said the meeting paved the way for the visits by the French President and Foreign Minister.

Begin, for his part, expressed hope that the days of "splendor" in Franco-Israeli relations -- 1954-1967 -- would return. He said the people of Israel regarded France and the French people as friends despite the "hostile" policies of former President Valery Giscard d'Estaing.

### GROMYKO: MIDEAST PEACE POSSIBLE ONLY THROUGH A COMPREHENSIVE POLITICAL SETTLEMENT RECOGNIZING THE RIGHTS OF ALL THE NATIONS

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 22 (JTA) -- The Soviet Union said today that peace in the Middle East can be assured "only through a comprehensive political settlement, one which would not infringe upon the rights of any country or people of that region."

In his address to the UN General Assembly, Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko said that such a Middle East peace could be reached "through convening an international conference with the participation of all parties concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organization." His remarks on the Middle East were part of a broad foreign policy speech outlining his country's position on major world issues, particularly as they relate to the U.S.

### USSR Blames Israel For Mideast Situation

Gromyko declared that a Middle East settlement "must envisage withdrawal of Israeli troops from all Arab territories occupied since 1967 and the exercise of the national rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including the right to establish their own state."

The Soviet Foreign Minister blamed Israel directly for the fact that the situation in the Middle East "remains a dangerous one." He accused "Israel's ruling circles" of persisting in their expansionist policies and charged that they "do not stop their brutal terror against the people of Lebanon, while influential forces outside the area actually encourage this policy and seek to follow the pattern of the anti-Arab Camp David deal."

Gromyko also declared that "the struggle of the Arab peoples to defend their legitimate rights, trampled under foot as a result of Israel's aggression, elicits understanding and support on the part of an overwhelming majority of countries."

Gromyko's speech today marked no departure from previous Soviet statements on the Middle East which denounced the Camp David accords, called for Israel's total withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and expressed support for Palestinian rights, including a homeland. As in previous years, today's Soviet statement implicitly recognized Israel's right to exist when it called for a settlement that would not infringe upon the rights of any country or people in the region.

### UNESCO UNIT CONDEMNS ISRAEL FOR ITS DIGS IN EAST JERUSALEM

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Sept. 22 (JTA) -- The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) today condemned Israel for its continuation of archaeological excavations in the Old City of Jerusalem. The UNESCO executive committee voted 28-1 to condemn Israel for its "persistent and deliberate violations" of former UNESCO resolutions on this subject.

The United States was the only UNESCO member state to vote against the Arab-sponsored resolution. Among the countries that abstained were all those from Western Europe, Guatemala, Jamaica and Japan. Israel is not a member of the UNESCO executive committee.

The resolution, which was voted on after a two-day debate and which will now be presented to UNESCO's general conference for ratification, said that "the excavations and transformations seriously threaten the historic and cultural sites of the city."



It also claimed that the digs now in progress "have never reached such a pitch in intensity and growth as today."

A UNESCO-linked body, the World Heritage Committee, voted earlier this month, to include the Old City of Jerusalem in the world list of sites which enjoy international, including Jordanian, protection and financial aid. Israel violently opposed the Jordanian-sponsored resolution but could not vote against it because it is not a committee member.

### ZAMIR RECOMMENDS 'EXPERIMENTAL EXCAVATIONS' AT CITY OF DAVID

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Sept. 22 (JTA) -- Attorney General Yitzhak Zamir's recommendation yesterday for "experimental excavations" to determine whether ancient Jewish burial grounds would be disturbed by the controversial archaeological digs at the City of David was promptly welcomed by Education Minister Zevulun Hammer. But it was angrily denounced by Ashkenazic Chief Rabbi Shlomo Goren who accused Zamir of "casuistry to justify desecration of graves."

The Attorney General's legal opinion, made public Sunday, held that the evidence presented so far by the Chief Rabbinate to support its halachic ruling that the dig site is an old Jewish cemetery "is not sufficient" grounds to revoke the excavation license awarded years ago to a Hebrew University archaeological team by the government Department of Antiquities.

However, Zamir stated, the rabbis do have a great deal of material evidence that Jewish graves possibly exist at the site and therefore a careful scientific examination is called for before the status of the dig license can be finally determined.

Hammer, a leader of the National Religious Party and an Orthodox Jew, hailed Zamir's opinion for showing "sensitivity to all sides" in the controversy. He indicated that he would accept and implement the proposal. Goren's fury was aroused apparently by Zamir's flat statement that halachic authority was not the final arbiter and cannot supersede the laws of the secular State.

### Elements In Zamir's Ruling

Zamir's opinion echoed the 2-1 ruling by the Supreme Court last week that the rabbinate has no legal right to determine state policy. The ruling upheld an interim injunction overturning Hammer's suspension of the dig which Goren and Sephardic Chief Rabbi Ovadia Yosef had condemned earlier as a violation of halacha.

Zamir made it clear that only on the basis of firm findings by "experimental excavations" could the Department of Antiquities, a department of the Ministry of Education and Culture, legally revoke the excavation license in the designated area of the City of David.

He went on to state in his opinion that the rabbinate's halachic rulings can be accepted as binding by individuals on a voluntary basis but they cannot be accepted as binding or as influential by organs of the State whose very existence rests on and is defined and limited by State laws.

The Attorney General's opinion and the fact that the Hebrew University team headed by Prof. Yigal Shiloh will end the season's diggings this week, are expected to defuse the controversy which had triggered violent demonstrations by religious zealots in Israel and abroad. It is also expected that the results of the scientific investiga-

tion, if properly conducted, will be accepted as final by the vast majority of Israelis, secular and religious.

But many observers see the controversy over the dig as only symptomatic of a larger power struggle between the Orthodox establishment which seeks to have the State impose religious strictures and the secular majority which vigorously resists such attempts.

### HOUSE ADOPTS MEASURE CONFERRING HONORARY CITIZENSHIP ON WALLENBERG; SIGNATURE OF PRESIDENT REAGAN IS NOW AWAITED

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22 (JTA) -- Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat-businessman who was arrested by the Soviet Union after rescuing some 100,000 Hungarian Jews from the Nazis during World War II, today was only a Presidential signature away from becoming the second foreigner to be named an honorary citizen of the United States. The first was the late Sir Winston Churchill.

The House today adopted a resolution conferring honorary citizenship on Wallenberg by a vote of 396-2. The negative votes were cast by Reps. John Ashbrook (R. Ohio) and Henry Hyde (R. Ill.). The Senate adopted a similar resolution last Aug. 3.

Rep. Tom Lantos (D. Calif.) who led the move for Wallenberg noted the bipartisan support in Congress for it as well as the backing by President Reagan and Secretary of State Alexander Haig. He said this demonstrated that when it "comes to fundamental principles, the American people stand as one."

Lantos said that both Reagan and Haig now have the "obligation" to raise the issue of Wallenberg's whereabouts with the Soviet Union at the highest levels, as called for by the resolution. He said the Soviet Union has the obligation "if he (Wallenberg) is alive, to let him go," or if he is dead, to release the facts of what happened to him. Both Lantos and his wife, Annette, were among the Hungarian Jews rescued by Wallenberg. Mrs. Lantos is chairperson of the International Raoul Wallenberg Committee.

Other members of Congress who supported the resolution stressed that granting honorary citizenship to Wallenberg was not a precedent. They noted that Wallenberg went to Hungary to help rescue Jews there partly at the request of the U.S. government.

He was arrested when the Red Army entered Budapest in January, 1945. The Soviet Union claims he died in prison in 1947 but there have been eye-witnesses since then and in recent years who claim to have seen him alive.

### SENATE UNIT VOTES TO PUT TIGHTER RESTRICTION ON U.S. PARTICIPATION IN THE SINAI PEACEKEEPING FORCE

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22 (JTA) -- The Senate Foreign Relations Committee voted today to put tighter restrictions on United States participation in the peacekeeping force that will patrol Sinai after Israel's final evacuation next April.

One restriction would limit the amount the U.S. spends for the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) to the percentage agreed upon in the original accord with Israel and Egypt. The resolution appropriates \$125 million for the 1982 fiscal year which starts Oct. 1, which is 60 percent of the cost of setting up the MFO and operating it for its first year. Egypt and Israel will each pay 20 percent.

Starting in the 1983 fiscal year, the United States, Israel and Egypt will each pay one-third of the cost of the MFO, now estimated at \$35 million each.



Another restriction would limit the U.S. forces in the MFO to participation only in the Sinai patrol and prevent them from engaging in war should one break out in the Mideast. The U.S. is committed to providing 1,000 of the 2,500 troops and civilian observers in the MFO.

The committee also adopted an amendment by Jesse Helms (R. N.C.), to authorize the President to train troops of any country who wish to participate in the Sinai force for that task. Sen. Charles Percy (R. Ill.) said this was to encourage other countries to participate in the force. As of now, only Fiji and Colombia have agreed to send a battalion each to the MFO.

#### SHAMIR AND CARRINGTON HAVE 'SHARP EXCHANGES' OVER BROAD RANGE OF MIDDLE EAST ISSUES

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Sept. 22 (JTA) -- "Sharp exchanges" took place today in conversations between Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir and British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington, sources here said.

The two men met at a Manhattan hotel, and while their talk was described as "polite," Shamir was reported to have expressed Israel's displeasure over Carrington's anti-Israel statements, his talks with leaders of the Palestine Liberation Organization and his support, in a most extreme manner, of what is known as the European initiative to bring the PLO into the negotiations for a Middle East settlement.

Shamir, reportedly, expressed particular dissatisfaction with recent statements by Carrington calling on the U.S. to apply pressure on Israel. Shamir asked the British diplomat how he would feel had Israel called on the U.S. to pressure Britain on the Irish question. During the conversation, Carrington reportedly expressed the wish to visit Israel and while Shamir said he would be welcome, he did not extend an official invitation.

#### Outspoken Supporter Of The PLO

Carrington has emerged as the most outspoken supporter of the PLO in the European Economic Community (EEC) and has called repeatedly for negotiations with the PLO as part of the Mideast peace process. He was said to have repeated that call in his talk with Shamir today and to have said that although he supports the Camp David process, as it stands it is not enough to reach a final settlement in the Middle East.

In his address to the UN General Assembly today, Carrington stated that in the view of his government "A comprehensive settlement can only be negotiated if all parties concerned, including the Palestinian people and the PLO which will have to be associated with negotiations, accept the principles which we set out in the Venice declaration and play their full part." The Venice declaration in June, 1980, was the EEC's statement of principles on the Middle East.

Carrington also told the General Assembly that "the starting point" toward a just peace in the Middle East "must be the independence and security of all states in the area, including Israel, and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to self-determination."

Carrington was one of three European Foreign Ministers with whom Shamir met today. The others were West Germany's Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher and the newly appointed Foreign Minister of Holland M. van der Stoep.

According to sources here, Shamir's talks with the German and Dutch Ministers were held in a much more cordial atmosphere than his encounter with Britain's Foreign Secretary. Genscher was invited to visit Israel and is scheduled to go there next spring.

#### Shamir Meets With Other Foreign Ministers

The crux of the Shamir-Genscher talk was the international situation and the role of Saudi Arabia in the Middle East. The Saudi image in the West is one of moderation. But Israel's view, as expressed by Shamir, is that the Saudis play a negative role, at least as far as the Arab-Israeli conflict is concerned.

A friendly atmosphere also prevailed at Shamir's meeting with Van der Stoep who took office only ten days ago. The Dutch diplomat noted with satisfaction the improved relations between Israel and the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) which includes Dutch troops.

It was reported, meanwhile, that Shamir had a meeting last night with the Foreign Minister of Argentina, Oscar Cammilion, who extended an official invitation to President Yitzhak Navon of Israel to visit his country. He and Shamir reportedly discussed mutual cooperation between Israel and Argentina in various areas. Cammilion was said to have acknowledged that the problem of anti-Semitism exists in Argentina and said his government is trying to fight it.

#### AJC CALLS FOR PROBE OF ARABS TRYING TO BUY TWO N.Y. BANKS

NEW YORK, Sept. 22 (JTA) -- The American Jewish Congress has called on the New York State Banking Superintendent to determine the "real owners" of an Arab consortium that is seeking to gain control of an American bank holding company that owns the Bank of Commerce in New York and the Community State Bank of Albany.

Will Maslow, general counsel of the AJCongress, told a hearing yesterday before Banking Superintendent Muriel Siebert that one of the members of the consortium -- Kamal Adham, former director of intelligence for Saudi Arabia -- was reportedly acting for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

"A prompt and thorough investigation should be undertaken before the purchase is approved," Maslow declared, adding: "We are concerned that Arab control of two New York banks may lead to discrimination against present or former employees of these banks or to discrimination in the administration of its credit policies."

"We realize that banks are well-regulated in this state and that such employment and credit discrimination is forbidden by New York law. We believe, however, that the people of New York are entitled to even more protection."

Maslow cited a 1975 precedent, when the UBAF Arab American Bank sought permission to establish a branch in New York State. At that time, he recalled, John Heiman, the Superintendent of Banks, required the UBAF incorporators to sign a pledge that the bank would operate in a completely non-discriminatory way.

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NEW YORK (JTA) -- The National Conference on Soviet Jewry has learned that the trial of two emigration activists, Vladimir Tsukerman and Osip Lokshin, began Tuesday in Kishinev. Both have been charged with "circulation of fabrications known to be false which defame the Soviet state and social system" and "organization, or active participation in, group actions which violate public order."



## BEHIND THE HEADLINES THE JEWS OF VIENNA

By Ben Frank

(Part Three Of A Three-Part Series)

NEW YORK, Sept. 22 (JTA) -- In the early morning rush hour in Vienna, thousands of people travel by subway to their places of work. One of the most famous stations is at Stephansplatz, at St. Stephans Cathedral. When he has the time, Dr. Leon Zelman stands in front of his office in the square where the station is located and watches the hundreds of subway passengers emerge from the underground on an escalator and out into the square where they cannot but help to see the sign that says: "Jewish Welcome Service -- Israel Tourist Information."

Zelman, a leader of the Vienna Jewish community and manager of the Jewish Welcome Service Travel Bureau, is proud of that sign. It is almost as if it is a reminder to the world, to Europe, to Vienna, that there is still a Jewish community very much alive in the capital of Austria.

After all, a community which has five Jewish newspapers, a half dozen synagogues, a community center, a day school, Talmud Torahs, kosher restaurants, bakeries and butcher shops, a new senior citizens home with geriatric facilities, and 8,000 to 10,000 Jews, is not exactly dormant.

### Young People Are Active

And yet, ironically, the big debate in Vienna is whether the Jewish community is viable or not. Despite disclosure by some that the community is not one of the world's most Jewishly involved, hope is expressed by many that with encouragement, Jewish life will continue to thrive. What is encouraging to a visitor is that a few of the present Jewish community leaders want to keep things humming.

For example, during an interview this reporter had while visiting Vienna recently with Michal Katz, president of the Jewish Student Union, and Ben Segenrich, a student leader, they said that there are 800 members in the Union between the ages of 18 and 35.

The popular activity is the weekly get together for Israeli folk dancing. The students also often gather together for parties. While fewer attend lectures on Jewish and Israeli-related topics, there are some educational programs which do draw a great many students. And when there is a crisis in Jewish life in Austria or elsewhere, students do respond and demonstrate support for Israel, Soviet Jews and Syrian Jews.

The two student leaders agreed with Zelman that there is very little intermarriage. Zelman said that often many families send their daughters and sons to Israel to find a spouse.

Many of the Austrian Jewish youth are medical students. Katz and Segenrich told me that in 1890, 42 percent of all medical students in Vienna were Jewish; and even today, more than 50 percent of the young Jewish men and women study medicine. Katz herself, who came here from Israel where she lived with her family, is also a medical student.

Among the Jewish student groups are Hashomer Hatzair and B'nai Akiva. There is some aliya to Israel. During the past summer there was a contingent from Austria to the Maccabiah Games in Israel. Most of the Jews in Austria have visited Israel. It's only a three-hour flight to Ben Gurion Airport.

There is some interchange of ideas with Jews from America, but not much. Zelman often hosts Jewish leaders from the U.S. as well as teachers

groups. Recently there was a B'nai B'rith Hillel group which visited the community.

If the Austrian Jewish community is to go on, though, exchange of visitors is crucial. Ties with the Jewish community in Israel are strong; the Holocaust is not forgotten. Zelman is part of a commission which visits schools and takes up that dark, tragic period in human civilization. He also organizes visits of Austrian teachers to visit Israel.

This is a close-knit community; everyone knows everyone else and the very small nucleus keep it alive. There is no doubt that the Jewish community is involved in the cultural and economic life of the country. They live a "nice life," is the best description of Jews in Austria.

And why not? Whether it is the result of the relaxed nature of the Viennese, political direction, the fortunes of history or a combination of all three, Vienna emerges as a truly livable, urban cosmopolitan place.

The best way to begin a visit to Vienna is to stop at the Jewish Welcome Service; it will begin an experience with the past, present and future in a country still deeply involved with the world and a Jewish Community which intends to stay alive.

### MOVE ON TO OUST ISRAEL FROM IAEC

TEL AVIV, Sept. 22 (JTA) -- Prof. Uzzi Ilem, head of Israel's Atomic Energy Commission, told Israel Radio in a telephone interview from Vienna today that the political consequences of a move to oust Israel from the International Atomic Energy Commission (IAEC) would be more serious than being barred from professional and technical information exchange arrangements.

Ilem, who heads the Israeli delegation to the talks where the Iraqis are trying to gather a two-thirds majority to bar Israel, said the vote, expected Thursday, was as yet undecided. A clear extreme resolution stood more chance of being blocked by friendly countries than one merely imposing some form of sanctions, he said.

The IAEC is one of the "cleanest" of the United Nations agencies and Israel's ousting would be a severe political blow, Ilem said. The absence of formal contacts with Israelis barred from participation in information exchanges, technical and professional study courses and seminars, would be "a pity, but something we could live with," he said. Ilem said Israel would presumably be able to continue bilateral contacts with other countries.

### MORRIS IUSHEWITZ DEAD AT 79

NEW YORK, Sept. 22 (JTA) -- Funeral services were held yesterday for Morris Iushewitz, a union leader for several decades, who died last Friday at the age of 79. Born in the Ukraine and brought to the United States when he was a year old, he enlisted in the Canadian army in 1916 during World War I and saw action in France, Italy and Palestine.

After graduating from the University of Wisconsin, he worked for newspapers in Milwaukee and Chicago in the 1920s. In 1930 Iushewitz moved to New York and worked for the Jewish Telegraphic Agency as a free lance reporter and then as the JTA's cable editor. He later worked on union publications, was a founding member of the Newspaper Guild and later held various posts in the New York City AFL-CIO Council.

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TEL AVIV (JTA) -- An attempt to explode a bomb in the Ramle market during a busy hour was foiled Tuesday morning when a police patrol noticed a suspicious looking vehicle parked in the market.