

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## ISRAEL CONDEMNS THE IAEA FOR DECISION TO SUSPEND TECHNICAL AID

By David Landau and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, Sept. 27 (JTA) -- The Cabinet today condemned the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) decision to suspend technical aid to Israel as "arbitrary and immoral." The IAEA, meeting in Vienna, voted 51-8 with 27 abstentions yesterday to condemn Israel's air raid on Iraq's nuclear reactor last June and to withhold all technical and economic assistance to Israel on nuclear matters.

The resolution, sponsored by Algeria, Saudi Arabia and several Persian Gulf states, and introduced by Yugoslavia, called on next year's regular session of the IAEA to expel Israel from the organization unless it agrees to place its nuclear program under international supervision. The United States and several Latin American countries voted against the resolution.

The Cabinet's statement, drafted by Premier Menachem Begin, said: "Enemies of Israel -- Iraq, Saudi Arabia and others of their allies -- attempted to expel Israel from the IAEA. They failed in their design, due mainly to the attitude and activity of the United States. However ... a sufficient majority was mustered to condemn Israel for its operation of national self-defense (the raid on the Iraqi reactor) for its act of rescue of tens of thousands of civilians, including children ... the government of Israel condemns this arbitrary and immoral resolution."

### Foreign Ministry Raps The IAEA

An earlier statement by the Foreign Ministry said the Israeli raid on the Iraqi reactor was no excuse for the IAEA action inasmuch as the agency took no measures against Iran after it bombed the Iraqi facility some months before the Israeli raid. Nor did the IAEA take action when India operated nuclear installations or in response to Pakistani efforts to produce nuclear weapons. This proved that the agency acted in an "arbitrary and discriminatory" manner against Israel, the Foreign Ministry said.

The statement noted that Israel has taken several initiatives to establish a nuclear-free zone in the Middle East, including one at the United Nations General Assembly last year. "The action in Vienna does nothing to help achieve such an objective," it said. The Foreign Ministry defended Israel's raid on the Iraqi installation, saying it was ordered only after clear information was obtained that Iraq was at the point of producing nuclear weapons, the prime target of which was Israel.

## SHAMIR SAYS HIS MEETING WITH GROMYKO FAILED TO END THAW

Knesset Group Returning From Meeting In Havana  
Cite Evidence Of Soviet Bloc Thaw Toward Israel  
By Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, Sept. 27 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir said his 90-minute meeting with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko in New York last Thursday was of value but "there is no

change" in the Soviet attitude toward Israel. "I am sorry I cannot herald any end to the freeze," Shamir said in a radio interview from New York over the weekend.

Nevertheless, members of the Knesset delegation just returned from an Inter-Parliamentary Union conference in Havana, said they found evidence of a thaw in the Communist bloc toward relations with Israel. Moshe Shahal, a Labor Alignment member of the delegation, said that delegates from East Germany and Hungary told the Knesset members that their countries were pressing strongly in Eastern bloc institutions for the restoration of diplomatic relations with Israel which were severed during the Six-Day War in 1967.

Shahal said these delegates had been "explicit in their statements" which were made in coordination with the Soviet Union and that Shamir's meeting with Gromyko was evidence of such coordination. Victor Shemtov, Secretary General of Mapam, also welcomed the Shamir-Gromyko meeting and said any such contact was for the good. He criticized "certain ministers" who claimed recently that Israel was the "spearhead of anti-Sovietism" in the Middle East. Shemtov warned that a great deal of harm was done by such statements.

### Main Value Of Shamir-Gromyko Talks

Shamir said the main value of his talk with Gromyko was the fact that contacts between Israel and the USSR on the ministerial level were renewed after being halted five years ago. The last Israeli Foreign Minister to meet with Gromyko was the late Yigal Allon who served in the Labor-led government. According to Israel Radio, Shamir brought up the issue of the situation of Soviet Jews as well as a wide range of problems relating to relations between the two countries and the Middle East.

Shamir said his conversation with the Soviet diplomat "gave the Russians a chance to hear our point of view once again, at first hand." He said the Russians regard Jewish emigration and the "Prisoners of Zion" to be part of their policy toward Israel. He said he raised the question of direct air flights from Moscow to Israel for emigrants. Gromyko did not reply directly but Shamir said he understood the Soviet Foreign Minister was opposed to mass Jewish emigration that ended up in the U.S.

According to Shamir, the Soviet Union has "not budged an inch" since 1947 when it supported the United Nations General Assembly resolution to partition Palestine into Jewish and Arab states. He said Gromyko told him that "some Arab states" opposed recognition of Israel's right to exist and that the Soviet government "argued" with those states. Shamir observed that this was "unlike some European countries which say that all Arab states really are prepared to recognize Israel under certain circumstances."

A Foreign Ministry spokesman confirmed Shamir's view that there was "not the slightest hint" that the Soviet Union or other Eastern European countries entertained a more favorable attitude toward restoring diplomatic relations with Israel.

At the meeting between Shamir and Gromyko, which took place at the Soviet Mission to the United Nations, Israel was represented, in addition to Shamir, by its Ambassador to the UN, Yehuda Blum; the Foreign Ministry's Deputy Director, Yosef Ben Aaron;



and Avi Pasner, a spokesman for Shamir. The Soviets were represented, in addition to Gromyko, by their Ambassador to Washington, Anatoly Dobrynin, and their Ambassador to the UN, Oleg Troyanovsky.

#### Mobilizing Against Anti-Zionist Drive

Meanwhile, Eli Eyal, head of the World Zionist Organization's information department, announced today that the WZO was recruiting a large group of Jewish and non-Jewish friends of Israel to warn the Western world of the broader dangers inherent in the Communist bloc drive against Zionism. Eyal spoke in reaction to the condemnation of Israel and Zionism voiced at the Havana conference.

He stressed that the counter-campaign would utilize the services of non-Jews who share the view that the ultimate aim of the anti-Zionist drive is to undermine the basic principles and values of Western society, democracy, sovereignty, freedom and independence. Eyal observed: "It was Hitler who said anti-Semitism served him against the short-sighted democracies and by making war against Judaism he would upset all democratic values."

#### REAGAN ADMINISTRATION SEEKING A COMPROMISE ON THE SALE OF THE AWACS THAT WOULD SATISFY THE SAUDIS AND HEAD OFF REJECTION BY CONGRESS

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27 (JTA) -- The Reagan Administration is seeking a compromise on the proposed sale of five AWACS surveillance aircraft to Saudi Arabia which will be acceptable to the Saudis and will prevent rejection of the \$8.5 billion weapons package by the Senate.

Richard Allen, President Reagan's National Security Advisor, stopped briefing Senators on the arms sale last week and instead began to work on a compromise proposal. It is believed to be along the lines proposed by Sen. John Glenn (D. Ohio) to give the U.S. joint control of the AWACS into the 1990s.

Sen. Paul Laxalt (R. Nev.) said today that he believes Glenn, because of this experience as a pilot, is "critical" to the situation. Laxalt, Reagan's closest personal friend in the Senate, said that "technology" in the AWACS is "unbelievable" and that many Senators do not want to see the planes going to any foreign country. Even the AWACS provided to NATO are under the control of Americans, he noted.

Laxalt, who appeared on the NBC-TV "Meet the Press" program, said he didn't know if the Saudis would accept the compromise since there have been conflicting reports in the last few days. He observed that the Saudis don't want to "lose face" by being "seen incapable" of operating the aircraft.

Sen. Ernest Hollings (D. SC), said on the ABC-TV "Issues and Answers" program today that he didn't care if the Saudis owned the planes or not but the "ultimate command and control" must be in the hands of the U.S. Otherwise he would vote against the sale, he said.

#### Warned That Israel Might Be Blamed

Laxalt warned that if the Senate rejected the sale, there would be some feeling in Congress blaming Israel. He advised Israel to take a "long view" and realize that the U.S. has other interests in the Middle East. He said that there were no prospects for peace in that region without

Saudi involvement. But Sen. Daniel Moynihan (D. NY), who also appeared on "Issues and Answers" today, noted that Saudi Arabia had taken the lead in opposition to the Camp David agreements and in the Arab attacks on President Anwar Sadat of Egypt. Moynihan said that for him to support the AWACS sale it would take a lot more than he expected the Administration to agree to.

Laxalt noted that there were 35-40 Senators who were "very responsive" to the Israeli situation. He said he would not say they were under Israel's control but were "sensitive" to any threat to Israel's security. He said he was also supportive of Israel.

#### Solon Denounces 'Ugly Overtone'

Last week Sen. Carl Levin (D. Mich.) denounced what he called an "ugly overtone" in the debate over the proposed arms sale package to Saudi Arabia. In a speech on the Senate floor Wednesday, Levin said:

"I refer specifically to a line of argument -- really a line of innuendo -- which somehow suggests that the decision about the sale will not be made by the Congress of the United States but rather by an all-powerful Israeli lobby and that the real issue that we will resolve is whether the government of the United States makes foreign policy or whether it is made by the Knesset."

Levin noted that Secretary of State Alexander Haig has said that "there has been no attempt by the government of Israel to improperly influence this decision."

#### AUTONOMY TALKS DELEGATIONS PLEDGE TO MOVE RAPIDLY TOWARD AGREEMENT ON UNDERSTANDING AND PRINCIPLES

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Sept. 27 (JTA) -- The first round of the renewed autonomy talks between Israel, Egypt and the United States ended in Cairo last Thursday with a joint communique in which the three delegations pledged "to move as rapidly as possible toward ... an agreement on understanding and principles." They announced a timetable of almost continuous talks on the senior civil servants level to continue through the middle of January, 1982, alternating between Egypt and Israel.

Although the participants expressed satisfaction with the outcome of the first round of resumed negotiations, veteran observers could point to no tangible progress. In fact, Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche conceded at a press briefing Thursday that "approximately 15 major issues" are still in dispute between Israel and Egypt.

On the key issue of associating the Palestinians of the West Bank and Gaza Strip with the autonomy talks, the communique was vague, apparently deliberately so. "Ways will be sought to encourage the Palestinians ... to engage actively in this process," the communique said. One of the ways, apparently, is the new policy of Defense Minister Ariel Sharon to ease some of the strictures applied by the military government in the occupied territories and vest greater responsibility for local affairs in selected civilian authorities.

Sharon explained his program in some detail at the Cairo talks and the Egyptian delegation, headed by Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali, expressed approval in principle. But Israel balked at Egypt's request for a formal commitment by Israel to "describe" in the future to the autonomy panel its "confidence-building" actions and policies in the territories.

Kimche said that Israel's approach to the resumed autonomy talks is to seek agreement on broad principles and work out details "at a later stage when the Palestinians join the talks." He said Israel "knew" that some Palestinian moderates "realize the advantages to themselves of the autonomy scheme" but were afraid of retri-



bution from the Palestine Liberation Organization if they came out publicly in favor of the plan.

#### HABIB CITES BASIS FOR HIS RETURN TO THE MIDEAST; SAYS SYRIAN MISSILES IN LEBANON IS NOT A PRIORITY ISSUE FOR THE U.S.

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27 (JTA) -- Philip Habib, President Reagan's special envoy for the crisis in Lebanon, said he would not return to the Middle East until the Arab League's special committee has a chance to continue its efforts to solve the problems facing Lebanon, both internal and external. Habib also indicated that the missiles Syria has placed in Lebanon is not a priority issue for the United States.

"I think it is in the United States interest, the interest of the people of the region, that the process of dealing with the complexities of Lebanon go on," Habib told several hundred people at the 35th annual conference of the Middle East Institute which opened last Friday for two days at the Mayflower Hotel. He said that the need now was to "consolidate the gains" made in Lebanon and to reduce the chances of another crisis occurring.

Habib, who had retired from the State Department in 1978 as Assistant Secretary of State for Political Affairs, was sent to the Mideast by Reagan last May after Syria moved SAM-6 missiles into Lebanon and Israel threatened to remove them by force.

The retired diplomat's remarks came in response to a questioner who asked about Premier Menachem Begin's statement on a television program while he was in the United States recently in which the Premier said he expected Habib to return to the Middle East soon to get the missiles removed. Habib replied that he will return to the Mideast when the President decides there is "something for me to do."

Habib said that while the missiles are still a major issue, at least for the contending parties, the major effort was to consolidate the gains made by the cease-fire across the Lebanese border to solve Lebanon's many internal and external problems.

#### Says Present Situation Is Calm

Habib, who was the keynote speaker for the conference, called for moving ahead swiftly on the Mideast peace process. He said the achievements of Camp David were the beginning of the peace process, not the end of it. "The present situation is about as calm as it is ever likely to be, short of a comprehensive settlement," he noted. He said this is why progress must be made to avoid any new crisis from developing.

He said that the reasons that all sides agreed to the cease-fire across the Lebanese border was that they all realized that unless they worked to "defuse the situation," they could undo all the progress they had made.

Habib said that the United States has a "unique" position because it is the only major power that can help bring peace to the Middle East. He said the Soviet Union could not do this. He predicted that the autonomy talks, which ended in Cairo Thursday, after two days, will produce results in a few months.

Asked about the lack of a special U.S. negotiator for the autonomy talks, Habib noted that the U.S. Ambassadors to Egypt and Israel, Alfred Atherton and Samuel Lewis, respectively, were experienced in the area and were intimate about every detail of the process.

On other issues, Habib rejected the contention of a member of the audience that the U.S. should end its commitment to Israel to refuse to deal with the Palestine Liberation Organization because it was not legally bound to do so.

Habib said the United States had made a "solemn commitment" which was "reasserted" by four Administrations not to speak to the PLO until it recognizes Israel's right to exist and accepted United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. "The ball is in the PLO court," Habib said.

Habib said he supports the sale of AWACS reconnaissance planes to Saudi Arabia and believes the sale will not "jeopardize" Israel and that the Saudi "requirements are real." He had earlier said that the U.S. commitment to the security of Israel "is unchanged from Administration to Administration."

#### CABINET APPEARS LEANING TOWARD SHARON'S WEST BANK, GAZA PLAN

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Sept. 27 (JTA) -- The Cabinet appeared favorable today toward Defense Minister Ariel Sharon's plan to reorganize the administration of the West Bank and Gaza Strip with the emphasis on local civilian government. But a formal vote of approval was postponed until the Cabinet convenes again next Sunday.

Premier Menachem Begin strongly supports Sharon's plan, and according to Cabinet Secretary Arye Naor, the "trend" is clearly toward approval. All ministers who discussed the plan today backed it, Naor said. Sharon proposes that the army limit itself to defense and security functions while the civilian administration would be placed in the hands of civilians, including as many Palestinians as possible at the highest levels of administration.

Begin said Sharon has his full backing and observed that the army's job should be to defend and protect the country, not to govern. A key purpose of the plan is to improve the atmosphere in the occupied territories during the autonomy talks between Israel, Egypt and the U.S. which were resumed in Cairo last week after a hiatus of 18 months. Sharon explained his plan in Cairo. He said the reorganization would be a tangible contribution toward "confidence-building" in the territories.

#### ST. THOMAS HAS DESALINATION UNITS BUILT BY ISRAELI FIRM

ST. THOMAS, U.S. Virgin Islands, Sept. 27 (JTA) -- Two new seawater desalination units constructed by an Israeli firm were recently dedicated at Charlotte Amalie, it was announced by Shmuel Ben-Tovim, Israeli Trade Commissioner to the United States. The Israeli firm which designed and built the new plant is Israel Desalination Engineering (IDE). Its managing director is Nathan Berkman. Both Ben-Tovim and Berkman visited St. Thomas last week to inspect the units.

According to Ben-Tovim, the two units, already producing fresh water in excess of their design capacity, are the first of their kind in the Western Hemisphere. He said a third unit is scheduled for completion in November on the adjacent island of St. Croix.

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JERUSALEM (JTA) -- Aharon Abu-Hatzeira, a member of Premier Menachem Begin's coalition government, will not stand trial for embezzlement until the Supreme Court determines whether the action of the ninth Knesset lifting his immunity is binding on the tenth Knesset to which he was elected last June. The high court ordered postponement of the trial which was to have opened in a Tel Aviv district court last week.



**SPECIAL TO THE JTA**  
**NEW YORK STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENT**  
**SAYS NURSING HOME RESIDENTS MUST**  
**GET KOSHER FOOD IF THEY WANT IT**

By Ben Gallob

NEW YORK, Sept. 27 (JTA) — The New York State Department of Health has mailed regulations and guidelines to some 500 nursing homes throughout the state to implement a law requiring that kosher food must be provided to any nursing home resident who requests it, the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America (UOJCA) reported today.

The measure, the only state law of its kind, was signed into law by Gov. Hugh Carey in September, 1978, according to Julius Berman, UOJCA president.

Berman explained that the reason for the three-year delay in implementation stemmed from legal requirements that regulations and guidelines to implement such a law must be drafted -- usually by the government agency given responsibility for implementation -- and approved. An enforcement mechanism also must be developed and put in place, Berman added.

Berman said the Bureau of Health Care Standards of the Health Department was designated to prepare the regulations to implement the new law. He said the bureau named an advisory committee which met for the first time in January, 1979.

Orthodox Union representatives on the committee included Berman and David Merzel, UOJCA community relations director. Others were Dennis Rapps, executive director of the National Jewish Commission on Law and Public Affairs (COLPA); Rabbi Isaac Trainin, director of the Commission on Synagogue Relations of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies; Rabbi Ephraim Sturm, executive vice president of the National Council of Young Israel; and Mark Stern, staff attorney for the American Jewish Congress. Several nursing home operators from around New York State also were named to the committee.

**Move To Speed Progress**

Berman said that, at the advisory committee's first hearing, it became clear the nursing home operators opposed the new law. To speed progress, James Tunny, director of the Health Care Standards Bureau, asked the Orthodox Union to call a meeting of kosher food vendors to learn whether they were interested in producing kosher food packages for nursing home residents, since only a few nursing homes in New York State are kosher.

On Feb. 26, 1980, a meeting was held at the UOJCA with kosher products manufacturers and distributors at which, Berman said, considerable interest was demonstrated in implementing the unique law and agreement shown that kosher food packages could be produced to meet the indicated need.

Another meeting was held at the UOJCA in March with Health Department nutritionists and dietitians participating. Berman said the purpose was to determine whether special diets of observant nursing home patients could be met by kosher frozen food packages. Confident that all nutritional standards could be met by the manufacturers, Tunny's staff returned to Albany to draft preliminary regulations.

The preliminary regulations were circulated in August and the advisory committee was convened

on Sept. 20 to discuss them. Berman said the important result of that meeting was that the nursing home operators recognized that state officials intended to implement the new law. One factor that helped, Berman said, was an indication from the state officials that there would be state reimbursement to the nursing homes for any additional costs of a kosher food diet. The added cost was a major concern of the nursing home operators.

The regulations had then to be put into final form, particularly the principles and practical applications of kosher food management and control. These are very comprehensive, Berman said, because, since the vast majority of nursing homes are not kosher, changes in kitchen and food handling procedures had to be spelled out.

Merzel drafted the two statements, which were then reviewed by the UOJCA Kashruth Division to assure complete compliance with the Jewish dietary laws. Rapps examined the two statements in terms of legal requirements. They were then sent to the State Health Department for review and final approval as regulations with the force of law.

Berman told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that some additional revisions were made by the state Health Department and that the final changes in the documents were circulated to nursing home and health-related facility administrators after they were adopted by the state department in principle last June 16.

**Need Time To Prepare Facilities**

Berman said most of the nursing homes, being non-kosher, will need to arrange separate space for kosher utensils, plus extra freezing space. He indicated he felt that for the first few months of implementation there would probably not be strict enforcement by Health Department inspectors because the nursing homes need time to prepare their facilities to conform to the regulations. Penalties for violations can range up to \$1,000 per day per violation.

Berman also agreed that the number of inspectors, as for many similar state-mandated programs, would almost certainly be insufficient for the kind of consistent inspection needed to assure that the new law was being properly implemented.

Nevertheless, he said, the fact that the unprecedented law was in force, with substantial penalties for violations, was a gain for Orthodox Judaism and for the peace of mind of observant Jews forced by the infirmities of age to spend their remaining years in a nursing home.

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MONTREAL (JTA) -- The national executive committee of the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) announced support of the Jewish Agency's plan to reduce the number of Soviet Jewish dropouts by refusing to aid any Soviet Jews who decide to settle in countries other than Israel unless they have first degree relatives in the other countries. The CJC said it adopted this position because there is a steady decline in the number of Soviet Jews who immigrate to Israel and the further curtailment of the number of exit visas the Soviet Union will grant as a result of this.

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BONN (JTA) -- Chancellor Helmut Schmidt has reaffirmed that he has no plans to visit Israel in the foreseeable future. Briefing German journalists, officials close to the Chancellor said that such a visit would not be opportune in view of the differences of opinion between Bonn and Jerusalem, notably on the issue of establishing and maintaining Israeli settlements on the West Bank.