

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## HAIG TELLS SENATE BODY OF NEW ARRANGEMENTS WITH SAUDIS TO 'SAFEGUARD' AND CONTROL USE OF AWACS

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Oct. 1 (JTA) -- Secretary of State Alexander Haig sought today to reassure Senators opposed to the sale of five AWACS reconnaissance planes to Saudi Arabia by stressing that there will be an American presence on the planes and on the ground well into the 1990s.

Haig gave these assurances in testifying before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, after meeting with them for more than two-and-a-half hours in executive session to explain the arrangements developed with the Saudis and completed only yesterday.

U.S. Ambassador Richard Murphy flew to Riyadh Monday to work out new proposals with the Saudis after it became apparent that Congress would reject the entire \$8.5 billion arms package for Saudi Arabia.

The Administration gave formal notice to Congress today on the arms package which also includes enhancement equipment for the 62 F-15s previously sold to the Saudis and aerial refueling tankers. Congress now has 30 days in which it can reject the sale if both the Senate and the House adopt resolutions of disapproval. (See related story on Pg. 4.)

### Safeguards Explained

Haig said that the safeguards worked out with the Saudis are "complete data sharing with the U.S. on a continuous basis;" "no sharing of AWACS data with any other parties without U.S. consent;" and "only carefully screened Saudis and U.S. nationals will be permitted to be involved with these aircraft."

He noted that since there is a shortage of Saudi air crews and technicians, this means there will be an American presence in the aircraft and on the ground well into the 1990s.

Haig said that other safeguards are that the Saudi AWACS will not operate outside of Saudi airspace and that "there will be extensive and elaborate security measures for safeguarding equipment and technology."

He said this will include U.S. teams to monitor the performance of all equipment involved with the AWACS; "special facilities for around-the-clock security protection; and all the security protecting arrangements must be approved by the U.S. at least one year before any AWACS are delivered to the Saudis." Deliveries are expected to start in 1985.

### Stresses U.S. Commitment To Israel

"Taken together, this package of safeguards and agreements addresses the fundamental concerns that have been voiced about the sale and also reflect a Saudi willingness to work with us and engage our mutual concerns," Haig stressed.

He said that what is "at stake is whether the United States will be able to pursue a coherent

policy in a region where the Arab-Israel dispute divides our closest friends and where the Soviets and their proxies threaten our vital interest."

Haig stressed that the U.S. "is fundamentally and unalterably committed to the security of Israel. A strong Israel is required by our interests and our hopes of peace and security in the Middle East." He said the Reagan Administration is "determined to take steps to minimize any adverse impact of the sale (to the Saudis) and to maintain the qualitative edge upon which Israel depends."

"President Reagan would not have authorized this sale if he believed it would jeopardize Israel's security," Haig said.

"On the contrary," Haig said, "We believe that the risks to Israel are greater if U.S.-Saudi cooperation is disrupted and Saudi Arabia is left insecure or forced to turn elsewhere for equipment."

Haig's comments were contained in a statement handed to the press before he went before the closed session of the Senate committee.

## SHAMIR TELLS UN CAMP DAVID ACCORDS ARE 'ONLY FEASIBLE PATH' TO MIDEAST PEACE. CLAIMS JORDAN IS THE 'PALESTINIAN STATE'

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Oct. 1 (JTA) -- Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir declared today that the Camp David accords "have been and remain the only feasible path to peace," in the Mideast. "No other viable solution appears on the horizon," he said.

In a speech prepared for delivery to the UN General Assembly late today, Shamir expressed confidence that the resumed negotiations for autonomy for the Palestinian Arabs living in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza District will be concluded successfully in the near future.

He reiterated, however, Israel's position that the Palestinian Arabs "do have a State on a major part of the territory of Palestine," namely Jordan, which is already a Palestinian state "by virtue of its geography, demography, history, culture, religion and language." Therefore, Shamir stated, "there is no need to speak further of self-determination for the Palestinian Arabs; their homeland is already in existence."

In his 18-page speech, the Israeli Foreign Minister outlined his country's position on major Mideast questions, such as the situation in Lebanon, nuclear proliferation and the arms race, along with other issues of concern for the Jewish State, such as the fate of Soviet Jewry and the UN treatment of Israel.

### Defends Raid On Iraqi Nuclear Reactor

Shamir said that Israel had to destroy Iraq's nuclear reactor "before it was to become operational in the summer of 1981, for its destruction at a later date would have brought about radioactive fallout endangering the civilian population of Baghdad." Charging that Iraq planned to produce an atom bomb to be used against Israel, Shamir said that "People in all parts of the world, including the Mideast, are sleeping more soundly today, secure in the knowledge that this particular reactor has been removed."



Shamir said that "The only genuine way to remove the nuclear threat to the Mideast can be found in the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone, freely and directly negotiated among the countries of the region and based on mutual assurances, on the pattern of the Tlatelolco Treaty of Latin America."

Noting that the Assembly is going to take up next month the issue of Israel's attack on Iraq's reactor, Shamir warned that the debate on the matter, initiated by Iraq, "has been formulated in a manner clearly intended to prejudge the outcome of the debate."

#### Blames Syria, PLO For Plight Of Lebanese

As for the Lebanese situation, Shamir said that "some 120,000 Lebanese civilians have been the victims of Syrian and PLO atrocities," in recent years. He said Israel hopes "that an independent and free Lebanon will soon re-emerge and maintain good relations with all its neighbors, including Israel."

But, Shamir warned, "this will be very difficult to achieve as long as the PLO is allowed to nest in Lebanon," and plan its terrorist acts from there and as long as the Syrian occupation of Lebanon continues. "The government of Israel will at all times support the re-establishment of a truly independent Lebanon, within its international boundaries, free of Syrian occupation and PLO terror," Shamir said.

Referring to the situation of Soviet Jews, Shamir accused the Soviet Union of preventing "many thousands" of Jews from emigrating to Israel. "Over the past year, we have been watching with growing anxiety the steady decrease in the number of Jews leaving the Soviet Union, to the lowest number for the last ten years," he said.

He charged that "over the past six months, the number of 'Prisoners of Zion' detained under false pretexts and sentenced by Soviet courts to long prison terms has doubled." He mentioned in that connection the names of imprisoned Jewish activists Ida Nudel, Viktor Brailovsky and Anatoly Shcharansky.

The Israeli minister appealed to the Soviet Union "to reopen its gates for Jews who wish to return to their homeland, and to cease the persecution of Jews in the Soviet Union." Shamir also expressed concern over the harassment of Syrian Jewry, calling upon the Syrian government "to respect the basic human rights of its Jewish community which it holds hostage and which it prevents from leaving."

#### Hits UN Treatment Of Israel

Shamir sharply criticized the United Nations for its treatment of Israel. "In recent years, this organization (UN) has repeatedly permitted itself to be abused by Israel's adversaries who enjoy a built-in majority in the Assembly on any issue related to the Arab-Israeli conflict. As a result, Israel has more than once been the victim of discriminatory treatment in the United Nations." As a case in point Shamir cited the UN negative attitude toward the Camp David agreements.

#### TIGHT SECURITY AT SYNAGOGUES MARKS ROSH HASHANAH IN W. GERMANY

By David Kantor

BONN, Oct. 1 (JTA) -- West German police have tightened security around Jewish institutions throughout the country. In reaction to the recent synagogue attack in Vienna and intelligence

obtained by the security services, police guards were posted outside of all houses of worship as Rosh Hashanah was observed. Other police units patrolled the streets in the vicinity of synagogues and other Jewish buildings.

It was reported from Geneva meanwhile that similar tight security measures were taken at synagogues and other Jewish premises in Switzerland over the High Holy Days. Nevertheless, a number of Jewish families, apprehensive in the aftermath of the terrorist attack in Vienna, did not attend synagogue this week.

In an unrelated matter, the Allied authorities in West Berlin have renewed their long-standing ban on the neo-Nazi National Democratic Party (NPD). It applies to party meetings, congresses and propaganda and is valid until the end of March, 1982. Despite the ban, the NPD has continued its activities in West Berlin during the year, and a number of arrests have been made. Police reported an increase of anti-Semitic incidents such as desecrations of Jewish cemeteries and threats against local Jewish leaders.

While Berlin's special status allows the Allied powers to ban the NPD it operates freely in the Federal Republic. West German officials say that a ban would not stand the legal test before the country's constitutional court.

#### BEGIN ASSAILED FOR DISPARAGING KIBBUTZ MEMBERS

By Hugh Orgel and Gil Sedan

TEL AVIV, Oct. 1 (JTA) -- The kibbutz movement is up in arms over remarks Premier Menachem Begin made on Rosh Hashanah eve disparaging kibbutz members. Victor Shem Tov, Secretary General of Mapam, charged today that Begin was trying to incite Israel's Sephardic community against the kibbutzim.

The Premier made his remarks in one of a series of pre-holiday press interviews. Questioned about the polarization between the Ashkenazic and Sephardic communities in last spring's Knesset election campaign, Begin criticized kibbutzim for adopting a superior attitude toward the neighboring new immigrant centers, populated largely by Oriental Jews. He described kibbutz members as acting "like millionaires lolling around their swimming pools."

The Sephardic community has been the mainstay of Begin's political support and its votes helped Likud eke out its narrow victory over the Labor Alignment in the elections last June. Shem Tov, speaking in the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, said it was not the first time that people who have not worked one day at manual labor incite the Oriental community against kibbutzim.

The kibbutz society is a society of labor and symbolizes one of the more important expressions of the Zionist revolution, Shem Tov said. A spokesman for Kibbutz Hatzor said it had invited Begin to visit them and see for himself that they did not live like millionaires. He charged that Begin has not visited a kibbutz since he became Prime Minister, although he has visited many border villages such as Kiryat Shemonah where he has supporters.

Meanwhile, Labor MK Menachem Cohen called on party chairman Shimon Peres to initiate a special Knesset session to discuss "the Premier's incitement against kibbutzim."

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PARIS (JTA) -- France's Chief Rabbi Rene Sirat has received an official invitation to visit Moscow next year at the head of a French rabbinical delegation. A member of the Soviet Embassy in Paris called on Sirat on Rosh Hashanah eve, to deliver the invitation from Moscow's Chief Rabbi Joseph Fishmann.



## REAGAN INDIRECTLY REBUKES ISRAEL FOR OPPOSING AWACS SALE

By Kevin Freeman

NEW YORK, Oct. 1 (JTA) -- President Reagan today warned Israel to stay out of internal U.S. foreign policy decisions and reiterated his continued support of the proposed sale of AWACS early warning radar planes to Saudi Arabia.

In an opening statement read to reporters at his first press conference in three months, Reagan indirectly referred to Israel's vehement and outspoken opposition to the proposed arms package. "It is not the business of other nations to make American foreign policy decisions," the President said.

Reagan said the proposed sale, which faces stiff opposition from both Houses of Congress, will "significantly enhance our national interests in the Middle East." He noted that the sale will improve U.S.-Saudi ability to defend the oil fields "on which our security depends ..."

The President said that both a secure Israel and a stable Middle East are in our national interests. "The sale poses no threat to Israel, now or in the future," he declared.

Asked about his opening statement and whether Israel should keep its hands off national security interests, the President responded, "I don't mean that in any deprecating way." It is important that other countries do not get the impression "that we are being unduly influenced" by other powers, Reagan said.

Reagan appeared confident that the proposed arms package will meet the requirements of skeptical Senators and avoid possible rejection by the Senate. He rejected the suggestion that the weaponry would be compromised should the Saudi regime go the way of the late Shah of Iran. "We will not permit a Saudi Arabia to be an Iran," Reagan said. The President did not elaborate on just how the U.S. would avoid such an occurrence. The press conference was nationally televised from the White House.

## SENATORS STILL OPPOSE AWACS DEAL AFTER HEARING HAIG'S ASSURANCES

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Oct. 1 (JTA) -- Members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee indicated their continued opposition to the sale of five AWACS reconnaissance planes to Saudi Arabia despite the assurances given to them by Secretary of State Alexander Haig in both private and public testimony today.

Although the committee's chairman, Sen. Charles Percy (R. Ill.) told reporters that "progress had been made" in the new arrangements worked out with Saudi Arabia, which were announced by Haig today, most members of his committee, Republicans and Democrats, said there was nothing new.

Sen. John Glenn, (D. Ohio), whose demand for joint control of the five AWACS had set off the flurry of new negotiations between the Reagan Administration and Saudi Arabia, said although he was "hopeful" that an agreement could be reached before the 30-day period the Senate has to vote on the proposal expires, he found nothing new in the new arrangements.

## No Written Agreement Now

Haig admitted to Glenn that the assurances given to the United States by the Saudis were

"fundamental understandings" and not in writing as Glenn and other Senators had demanded. Haig said that the agreements would be put in writing over the course of the next several years and at least one year before the planes are delivered to Saudi Arabia. The first deliveries will begin in 1985.

Sen. Larry Pressler (R. S.D.) said he was opposed to the sale as it now stood and urged additional changes. But Haig said this was basically the "end of the line" for negotiations with Saudi Arabia on the sale. Haig said President Reagan is committed to this sale and will support it "win or lose."

Pressler noted that he could not be accused of being a captive of the Israel lobby. He noted there was only one rabbi in all of South Dakota and said the rabbi was outnumbered by the state's two Senators.

Pressler said that whatever happens will be a losing proposition. He said if the AWACS are rejected by Congress, then Israeli Premier Menachem Begin will be blamed for the defeat. He said if the sale goes through, Israel will then seek more military aid.

A similar point was made by Sen. Joseph Biden (D. Del.), who noted that United States security will be hurt if the sale is rejected since United States relations with Saudi Arabia will suffer. But he added, United States security would be even more damaged if the sale goes through.

Sen. Rudy Boschwitz, (R. Minn.) charged that the Saudis were seeking a "litmus test" of American friendship and would want something else if the current proposal for the \$8.5 billion arms sales is sustained. He said since February, 1976, the United States has sold Saudi Arabia \$35 billion in arms, including \$12 billion since the sale of the 62 F-15s in 1978.

## Attack On Kuwait Showed AWACS Needed

Percy noted that the importance of the AWACS sale was demonstrated by the reported Iranian air force attack on a Kuwaiti oil field last midnight. Haig agreed, noting that it was a "dramatic and I think God-given warning" on the need for the AWACS for Saudi Arabia. He said the U.S. AWACS now in Saudi Arabia "picked up" Iranian planes as they headed for the Kuwaiti oil fields and that an integrated air defense system would have knocked out the Iranian planes if the Saudis had the AWACS and such an attack was launched against Saudi oil fields.

Percy said the committee will continue hearings next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and hopes to vote on Wednesday.

## RABBI SCHNEIER DESCRIBES HIS DISCOVERY OF RARE CZECH-HEBREW PRAYER BOOK

By Ben Gallob

NEW YORK, Oct. 1 (JTA) -- Rabbi Arthur Schneier, head of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, disclosed today he had received a letter of thanks from officials of the Council of Jewish Religious Communities in the Czech Socialist Republic for 2,000 copies of a rare Hebrew-Czech prayerbook.

He said he had discovered the rare prayerbook in 1979 when he headed a Foundation delegation to Prague. He said he negotiated with Dr. Karl Hruza, president of the State Council for Religious Affairs, the Czech title for the Czech Minister for Religious Affairs, and received permission to take the rare prayerbook back to New York and to send copies to Czech Jews. He said the 2,000 copies were made by facsimile and sent to the Council of Jewish Religious Communities in time for use during the current High Holy Days.

He said the negotiations for permission to print and to arrange for distribution of the facsimile copies lasted two years. The facsimile edition was financed by the Foundation.



## WEINBERGER WARNS REJECTION OF AWACS SALE WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT U.S., ISRAELI INTERESTS

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Oct. 1 (JTA) -- Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger said that despite fears expressed by members of Congress that sophisticated American military equipment might fall into unfriendly hands if the AWACS reconnaissance aircraft and other advanced U.S. weaponry are sold to Saudi Arabia, there is no way to guarantee the loss of such equipment whether in American hands or in the hands of countries to which the U.S. sells arms.

Weinberger also warned that if the Senate rejects the \$8.5 billion military package sale to Saudi Arabia, it will adversely affect the national interests of both the U.S. and Israel.

Testifying before the Senate Armed Services Committee on Monday in the first Congressional public hearing on the AWACS sale, both Weinberger and committee chairman Sen. John Tower (R. Tex.) said the issue has become "emotional" and urged the Senators to keep an open mind. Also testifying was Air Force Gen. David Jones, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Questioned repeatedly about the security of American weapons in Saudi Arabia, Weinberger said there would always be a risk wherever weapons are sold and that the U.S. cannot allow this to "paralyze" it in making decisions on whether to sell arms to foreign countries. "We lost weapons in Iran. We lost weapons in Vietnam," Weinberger said.

But in his prepared testimony, the Defense Secretary noted that "the Saudis have an outstanding record of protecting sensitive U.S. equipment and information and the Saudis recognize and accept the need for special safeguards in this case. Consequently, they have agreed to extensive, jointly planned and monitored security arrangements that satisfy stringent U.S. requirements for the safeguarding of our equipment."

### Adverse Effects If Sale Is Rejected

Weinberger also rejected the repeated charge by members of Congress that the Saudi regime is unstable. He said the regime in Saudi Arabia, unlike Iran, has not distanced itself from its people and its modernization efforts are being undertaken with the cooperation of the religious authorities in Saudi Arabia. He said the Reagan Administration would not allow the Saudi regime to fall, as did the Shah of Iran. He did not elaborate.

In warning of the effect of a Congressional rejection of the sale, Weinberger declared, "There can be little doubt that future U.S.-Saudi relations would be very adversely affected." He said "such a rejection would cause the Saudis to doubt the reliability of U.S. commitments and the ability of American Presidents to conduct foreign policy."

He added that it would also "make it far less likely that Saudi Arabia and others will agree to the kind of security cooperation, joint planning, combined exercises and advanced preparation for sharing facilities and supplies which we feel are needed if the U.S. is to defend shared security interests in southwest Asia. Furthermore, rejection of the sale would confirm a too widely held opinion in the Middle East that the U.S. is solely concerned with the wishes of the Israeli government to the exclusion of all other interests," Weinberger said.

He said he believed that Israel's long term interests would also be damaged by rejection. He noted that Israel would benefit from the strengthened mili-

tary capability the AWACS would bring to the U.S. in the region. He said Israel would be affected by a "continuing, perhaps unneeded hostility" toward it by the Saudis and other Arab countries and by the fact that the Saudis would almost certainly buy the British "Nimrod" which, according to Gen. Jones, is almost as good as the AWACS.

Weinberger and Jones repeatedly stressed that the AWACS will not be a threat to Israel. Jones said the Saudis would be "foolhardy" to use them in any way that would threaten Israel.

Both Pentagon officials stressed that the AWACS will not be sent to Saudi Arabia before 1985, the American crews will have to train Saudis for at least another five years and that American technicians and ground crews will be necessary for the foreseeable future.

Jones, who claimed close ties with the Israel Air Force, said he could not understand why the Israelis were opposed to the AWACS sale. That opinion was shared by Sen. Strom Thurmond (R. S.C.) who said he favored the sale. "I don't understand why Mr. Begin opposes the sale. He would be wise to recommend the sale," Thurmond said.

In their briefings, which included a slide presentation, Weinberger and Jones stressed that the AWACS' equipment represented 1960s technology and that while it is now superior to anything the Soviets have, they will have something similar to it by the time the AWACS are delivered to the Saudis.

"I'm a little amused listening to this briefing," said Sen. Henry Jackson (D. Wash.) a leading opponent of the AWACS deal. "I get the impression that this is a pile of junk." Jackson and other Senators noted that Jones had stressed the sophistication of the AWACS when the Pentagon first sought funds to build them.

Jones said he was a strong supporter of the AWACS and felt they were needed in Europe by NATO. The type to be sold to Saudi Arabia has less equipment but would meet the needs there, he said. He explained that this need is to protect the oil fields and to allow Saudi equipment and bases to be integrated with U.S. forces in the area if the need were to arise.

Gen. P. X. Kelley, Assistant Commander of the U.S. Marine Corps and a former commander of the Rapid Deployment Joint Task Force, maintained that no country is more important to the free world than Saudi Arabia. He said there must be a "free and willing relationship" with the Saudis in order to be able to use their territory and equipment to meet any threat to the Persian Gulf area.

Jones denied the contention of some Senators that it was the U.S. not the Saudis who proposed the AWACS sale. Jones said that two AWACS were first sent to Saudi Arabia for 45 days in March, 1979 after fighting broke out between north and south Yemen. He said that in October, 1980, four U.S. AWACS were sent to Saudi Arabia after the outbreak of the Iraqi-Iranian war and those planes are still there. Jones said that last November, the Saudis asked to buy their own AWACS. He denied that the U.S. had proposed the sale.

He said he believed that after the Saudis receive the five AWACS in the sales package, the four under U.S. ownership will continue to be based there.

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JERUSALEM (JTA) -- The Senate Armed Services Committee has proposed "a permanent dialogue on issues of mutual interest" with the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. It called for an annual exchange of visits by members of the two committees. The suggestion was made by Sen. John Tower (R. Tex.) chairman of the Armed Services Committee in a letter to the Knesset body.