

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## GERMANY CONCERNED THAT THE EEC WILL NOT CONTINUE ITS MIDEAST INITIATIVE AFTER ISRAEL WITHDRAWS FROM SINAI

By David Kantor

BONN, Feb. 11 (JTA) -- Government officials are said to be concerned over the lack of determination among members of the European Economic Community (EEC) to continue its Middle East initiative after Israel completes its withdrawal from Sinai next April, according to sources in the government.

The sources said French reservations over EEC Middle East policies are likely to block any moves beyond the 1980 Venice declaration which has been criticized by the Socialist government in Paris. The declaration, among other things, calls for association of the Palestine Liberation Organization in the Mideast peace process.

Arab diplomats here are understood to believe that following the visit of President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt last week, the West German government would welcome a broad-based European initiative to bring the PLO into the peace talks. Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, in his joint statement with Mubarak, spoke of the right of the Palestinians to "exercise full self-determination." Without that right guaranteed, they would not join in the peace process, Schmidt said.

The government sources said that when Israel evacuates Sinai on April 25, a new chapter will open in Middle East developments. That was taken as an allusion to possible new European diplomatic moves.

## CANADIAN ENVOY SAYS MIDEAST ARMS RACE, UNRESOLVED PALESTINIAN ISSUE IMPEDE MIDEAST SECURITY PROSPECTS

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11 (JTA) -- Alan Gottlieb, Canada's new Ambassador to the United States, warned that the "passionate" arms race in the Middle East and the "unresolved issue of Palestinian rights and aspirations" do not enhance the prospects for Middle East security.

Gottlieb made his brief remarks on the Middle East during a speech yesterday to about 75 persons attending the B'nai B'rith Public Affairs Forum here. The speech, which dealt mainly with Canadian-U.S. trade relations, was his first address since he became Ambassador about six weeks ago.

Praising the Camp David process which, he said, he hoped would lead "to further significant results," Gottlieb stressed that "there are basic trade-offs to be made and I am convinced that people of foresight and sensitivity in the area will make their influence felt on both sides in favor of the necessary accommodations."

"There is, I believe, necessary recognition that the Arab-Israeli issues will have to be settled on their own merits and that the alternative is a fifth Arab-Israeli war, or a sixth or seventh with consequences too fateful to contemplate."

Asked if Israel was being pressured to negotiate, Gottlieb replied that history has proven, as in the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty that "it is better to negotiate than not to negotiate."

Gottlieb, who is Jewish and was born in Winnipeg, told the audience that he had served as a counselor at B'nai B'rith camps after World War II. In his speech he observed that the U.S. and Canada, unlike other countries, are nations of immigrants that are based on multicultural and ethnical diversity. He said that his ancestors came to Saskatchewan in the 19th Century and settled in a town called Hirsch, now extinct, which was named after the philanthropist Baron de Hirsch who brought Jewish families to Canada.

## BONN GOVERNMENT ACCUSED OF EXAGGERATING NEO-NAZI VIOLENCE

By David Kantor

BONN, Feb. 11 (JTA) -- The Justice Minister of Rheinland-Pfalz accused the Bonn government of exaggerating the political significance of neo-Nazi violence in West Germany and giving undue publicity to right-wing extremists. According to Waldemar Schreckenberger, who heads the Justice Ministry in the federal state, the government has been portraying neo-Nazis as a danger to national security whereas it was less dangerous than the left-wing urban guerrilla movement in Germany.

Public concern over neo-Nazi violence has been heightened by the trial of a Nazi group headed by Manfred Roeder, a former lawyer, which is being conducted in the Stammheim security prison near Stuttgart. Another trial is pending against Karl-Heinz Hoffmann, leader of an outlawed neo-Nazi group which masqueraded as a sports club. Both Hoffmann and Roeder have been involved with the Palestine Liberation Organization and sent young neo-Nazi recruits for military training in El Fatah camps in Lebanon.

## Jews, Foreigners Receive Warnings

Meanwhile, scores of residents of Mannheim, Ludwigshafen and adjacent towns have reported receiving anonymous tape-recorded telephone messages inveighing against Jews and other foreigners in West Germany. The messages warned that unless the foreigners were gotten rid of quickly, the German people were in danger of self-destruction.

The DGB Central Trade Union and a Ludwigshafen youth group identified the tape-recorded voice as belonging to a known member of a neo-Nazi organization. They urged the State-owned telephone company to cut off the man's telephone service.

## FOUR CABINET MINISTERS TO ACCOMPANY MITTERRAND TO ISRAEL NEXT MONTH

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Feb. 11 (JTA) -- Four Cabinet Ministers will accompany President Francois Mitterrand on his official visit to Israel next month. The four are: Minister for Foreign Trade Michel Jobert, Minister for Economic Affairs Jacques Delors, Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson, and Minister for Culture Jack Lang. Lang is Jewish.

Jobert, who served as Foreign Minister under President Georges Pompidou, is reputed to head the small pro-Arab lobby within the current Socialist Administration and observers here believe that Mitterrand has asked him to join the official party in order to dispel this reputation.

Mitterrand, who will visit Israel March 3-5, will also be accompanied by half a dozen top administrative aides. It is believed that among the aides will be adviser Jacques Attali, who has been under attack by Arab diplomats here for his pro-Zionist activities and his criticism of Saudi Arabia. Attali is Jewish.

### PREACHER DELIVERS VICIOUS ANTI-SEMITIC, ANTI-CATHOLIC SERMON

By Ben Kayfetz

TORONTO, Feb. 11 (JTA) -- The Canadian Jewish Congress has complained to the Ontario Attorney General about a Pentecostal preacher, in suburban Toronto who delivered what the Congress said was a "vicious, shameless and blatantly offensive" anti-Semitic and anti-Catholic sermon last year.

The preacher, Rev. Paul Melnichuk, 50, of the Faith Cathedral, delivered a sermon in which he denounced Jews as the "most unlovable people" but since "God wants us to bless them ... I'll bless Jacob, though he's miserable." Melnichuk, who tapes his sermons and then sells copies in the church's gift shop, also said:

"My God, look at the old crooked Jew, as soon as he sees you he's wondering how much money he can make on you, and how he can gyp you. That's Jacob all over again. It's right in his nature ... They crucified him (Jesus) -- the Jews did -- the Romans didn't ..."

At one point in his taped sermon, he said: "Now wouldn't it be a good idea, if you work for a Jew, if you buy this tape and show it to your Jew boss?" This is exactly what happened. A congregant, who was employed by a Jewish dentist, was so appalled by what she heard that she brought it to the attention of her employer. In his sermon, Melnichuk also referred to the Catholic Church as "the great whore" mentioned in the Book of Revelation. Neither Melnichuk nor his church are affiliated with the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada.

Canada has had an anti-hate law in its Criminal Code since 1970 forbidding the fomenting of hatred and contempt against racial and religious minorities. The Attorney General's consent is required for prosecution under this law and therefore the Canadian Jewish Congress submitted the remarks of Melnichuk to the Attorney General's office. A representative of the Catholic archdiocese of Toronto, present at a press conference where the Congress made known its action and played the tape, indicated that the church was "supportive" of the Congress' position.

Morley Wolfe, chairman of the Congress-B'nai B'rith community relations council for Ontario, said the policy of his committee ordinarily was not to give exposure to such hate mongers. This time an exception was made for a number of reasons, he explained.

Wolfe said the material in the sermon was so blatant that it would be disgraceful if the preacher was allowed to "get away with it."

Moreover, he said, Melnichuk was not an obscure agitator but someone with an assured audience every week of some hundreds of people who looked up to him as a spiritual leader and was a person who had the respectability of being a man of the cloth.

Wolfe said the Congress-B'nai B'rith had delayed making public Melnichuk's sermon because it wanted to give him a chance to apologize or repudiate his remarks publicly in an appropriate manner. A letter had been sent last December 16 to his Board of Directors, but no reply was received.

### KOCH AND UN EMBROILED IN A FIGHT

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Feb. 11 (JTA) -- A United Nations spokesman said today that a statement made yesterday by a UN official criticizing Mayor Edward Koch for his proposal to alter the inscription on the Isaiah Wall across from the UN, was "unauthorized" and that disciplinary action will be taken against him. The spokesman added, however, that Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, has decided to put off a luncheon appointment with the mayor, in an apparent expression of displeasure over Koch's criticism of the world organization.

Incensed over the anti-Israeli resolution adopted by the General Assembly last Friday, which called for the total isolation of Israel for its annexation of the Golan Heights, Koch said that he has been "reading the Bible," in search for an acceptable phrase to be added to the Isaiah Wall, "that would indicate the 'hypocrisy, immorality and cowardice' of the UN."

Last night, a UN official, Hans Janitschke, said in an interview on WNBC-TV that Koch "can say what he likes, but if he puts it on the wall across the street (from the UN), that is going too far ... if the mayor of New York and the people of New York want us out of New York, we would have to consider it very seriously."

Koch, responding to the criticism of the UN official, retorted last night: "The UN should decide for itself whether it's comfortable here. The UN is hypocritical and cowardly, and I would not be concerned if, in fact, it moved from the city." He added: "If the UN would leave New York, nobody would hear of it again."

Koch disclosed earlier this week that Israel's Ambassador to the UN, Yehuda Blum, called him last Friday, after the Assembly adopted its harsh anti-Israel resolution, and asked him who owns the Isaiah Wall. "I said the city owns it," Koch recalled, adding: "But I told him we would not remove the statement of Isaiah. I said I would simply add a statement which would reflect moral indignation and outrage at the hypocrisy of the UN."

The present inscription on the Isaiah Wall, quotes from Isaiah 24 which reads: "They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning tools; nation shall not lift up sword against nation. Neither shall they learn war any more."

## STATE DEPARTMENT STRESSES THAT THERE IS 'DEFINITELY' NO CHANGE IN U.S. POLICY TOWARD ISRAEL

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11 (JTA) -- The State Department stressed today that "there definitely has not been" any change in U.S. policy toward Israel. "We remain committed to Israel's security and well being, as well as maintaining the best possible relations with other states in the Middle East," Department spokesman Dean Fischer said.

Fischer made his statement after saying he would not comment on reports that a senior official travelling with Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger in the Middle East said the U.S. wanted to establish a more balanced relationship with Israel and the more moderate Arab states.

The official was reported as saying that this new relationship was reflected in the joint military planning group Weinberger set up with Saudi Arabia while visiting there this week and his efforts to establish a similar group in talks in Oman. The official also pointed to this balance in connection with Weinberger's discussions in Jordan yesterday about the possibility of selling that country U.S. Hawk anti-aircraft missiles and possibly F-16 jet fighters.

### Israel Opposed To Arms Sale To Arabs

(Political sources in Jerusalem said today that Israel intends to make known to the U.S. its strong opposition to the increased sale of weapons to Arab countries, notably Jordan and Saudi Arabia because of their effect on the balance of military power in the region and on the peace process.

(Israel was also reported to be seeking clarification from the U.S. of the remarks attributed to a senior official travelling with Weinberger. Some media reports quoted the official as saying the U.S. intends to take a "tougher line" toward Israel. The description "senior official" was used by former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger to cover remarks he did not want attributed to himself. The Israelis want to find out if the "senior official" in this case was in fact Weinberger.)

### Exploring Arms Sale With Jordan

Weinberger was reportedly trying to get Jordan to drop its agreement to purchase Soviet anti-aircraft missiles. Fischer said today that the Defense Secretary was not negotiating with the Jordanians on arms sales but only exploring the possibility. He denied there were any differences between Weinberger and Secretary of State Alexander Haig on this issue and stressed that Haig had been "apprised" of what Weinberger was trying to accomplish on his Middle East trip.

With respect to the sale of Hawk missiles and F-16s to Jordan, Fischer stressed that no decisions have been made since there would have to be consultations with Congress first. He noted that the U.S. had supplied "air defense aircraft" to Jordan in the past and knew that Jordan would eventually need to replace them, possibly with the newer, more advanced F-16s.

He said the U.S. was also aware of Jordan's need for air defense missiles. When King Hussein visited Washington last fall, it was announced that Jordan had agreed to buy 20 mobile batteries containing 320 SA-8 missiles from the Soviet Union.

Jordan originally turned down an offer to buy Hawk missiles from the U.S. during the Carter Administration after Congress stipulated that the missiles had to be stationary so that they would not endanger Israel. Weinberger, in Amman, reportedly said that restriction was responsible for Jordan turning to the Soviet Union.

### Consultations With Habib Next Week

Fischer said today that U.S. special envoy Philip Habib would be at the State Department next week for consultations that would determine whether he will return to the Middle East to resume his efforts to calm the tense situation in Lebanon. State Department sources said the U.S. has been in contact with Israel, Syria and Lebanon over what is believed to be an increasingly tense situation in the area.

There have been reports that Israel plans to invade south Lebanon to destroy Palestinian terrorist formations there. But Fischer said today that "We have no evidence of any recent build-up" by Israeli forces along the Lebanese border. Haig had voiced concern last week over Soviet military supplies to the Palestinian forces in Lebanon. Fischer said the situation there is still very "sensitive" and that the U.S. is "watching it closely."

On another matter, Fischer said the U.S. Ambassador in Syria, Robert Paganelli, was informed about an uprising in the central Syrian city of Hama. The envoy was told that elements of the fundamentalist Moslem Brotherhood were involved and that government forces have sealed off part of the city to protect civilians while they try to put down the uprising. The Ambassador was told that the "situation in the rest of the country is calm."

### JEWISH SCHOOLS IN FRANCE

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Feb. 11 (JTA) -- A delegation of principals of Jewish schools in France was scheduled to meet today with Minister of Education Alain Savary to stress the need to preserve schools with specific Jewish identities in spite of the Socialist government's plan in favor of the public school system. The government plan provides for a serious cut in state subsidies to private and religious schools in order to obtain a standardization of the public school system.

There are over 50 Jewish schools in France with over 9,000 students and classes go from elementary to senior high and even institutes of university standards. Most of the high schools are situated in Paris and Marseilles.

All, however, depend to a large extent on state subsidies which are now jeopardized by the government's new educational program. Most of the Jewish schools use the regular state curriculum supplemented by traditional Jewish subjects and Hebrew classes.

The Chief Rabbi's adviser for education, Dr. Daniel Kahn, said today that it is imperative for the preservation of Judaism to maintain some form of Jewish education and Jewish oriented schools. Though the school population represents less than 0.5 percent of the 700,000-member Jewish community, most communal workers, rabbis and educators are themselves graduates of Jewish schools.

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TEL AVIV (JTA) -- A strike by some 6,000 municipal workers throughout the country which started Monday and was to have lasted three days ended Tuesday night after the government agreed to allow wage increases for lower paid workers.

## \$50,000 APPROPRIATED FOR PERMANENT HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL EXHIBIT IN ALBANY

ALBANY, Feb. 11 (JTA) — State Senate Democratic Leader Manfred Ohrenstein, who fled Nazi Germany as a teenager in 1938, today hailed the approval of a \$50,000 Supplemental Budget appropriation he had requested for the creation of a permanent Holocaust memorial exhibit at the State Museum here. Albany legislators Senator Howard Nolan, Jr. and Assemblyman Richard Conners joined Ohrenstein in applauding the Holocaust exhibit appropriation.

Dr. Steven Windmueller, executive director of the Greater Albany Jewish Federation, said the Jewish community here "is excited about this important step proposed by Senator Ohrenstein. We're pleased that the exhibit will have the joint support of the State of New York and of our community." The \$50,000 appropriation will provide much of the funding for the exhibit, and the remainder will come from private contributions from the Albany area coordinated by the Federation.

### Significance Of The Exhibit

Discussing the significance of the exhibit, Ohrenstein said: "Two generations have already grown up since the end of World War II, with no recollection of the Nazi mass murder of six million Jews and five million others. In addition, revisionist historians are claiming that the Holocaust never happened.

"Our aim is to show the grim reality of the Holocaust, through artifacts, photographs, videotapes, books and other learning materials. But in addition to the subhuman conditions of concentration camps and ghettos, we intend to portray the resistance movements and other testimonies to the survival of the human spirit. Only by remembering the past will we be able to prevent a repetition of the Holocaust against any group of people."

The museum exhibit will enhance the new Holocaust studies program that the State Department of Education is beginning in primary and secondary schools this year, Ohrenstein noted. He added that the exhibit puts New York State on record in commemorating the Holocaust, just as the federal government is doing with the National Holocaust Memorial Council.

The Senator also commended the efforts of the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York and a group of New York City Holocaust survivors who are trying to set up a memorial and learning center there.

## MOVEMENT OF JEWS FROM NORTHEAST U.S. TO SUN BELT IS SLOWING DOWN

NEW YORK, Feb. 11 (JTA) — The movement of Jews from the Northeast of the United States to the Sun Belt — the Southern and Western part of the country — continued during 1981 but may have lost some of its momentum, judging from figures appearing in the just-published 1982 American Jewish Year Book.

The Northeast and Northcentral states accounted for 68.5 percent of the total 5,921,000 Jewish population, as compared with 68.9 percent the year before. Of the 21 states in these regions, only five showed population increases over 1980.

The South and West comprised 31.5 percent of the total, compared with 31.1 the year before. Eleven of the 30 states (including the

District of Columbia) in these regions reported population increases.

The demographic report, compiled for the Year Book by Alvin Cherkin and Maynard Miran, of the Council of Jewish Federation and Welfare Funds, indicates that the Greater New York Metropolitan area contains more than one-third the total Jewish population of the United States.

Since the U.S. Census Bureau does not identify Jews as an ethnic group and therefore does not collect data on Jewish populations, the report points out that its figures are provided primarily through an annual survey of Jewish federations. Formal population studies are conducted in some communities, while others estimate roughly on the basis of lists of known Jewish households.

### Jewish Population Around The World

Among the Jewish population figures for U.S. cities listed in the Year Book's tables are: New York City Metropolitan Area, 1,998,000; Los Angeles Metropolitan Area, 503,000; Philadelphia Metropolitan Area, 295,000; Chicago Metropolitan Area, 253,000; Miami, 225,000; Boston, 170,000; Greater Washington, 160,000; Bergen County (N.J.), 100,000; Essex County (N.J.), 95,000; Baltimore, 92,000; Fort Lauderdale, 75,000; Cleveland, 75,000; Detroit, 75,000; San Francisco, 75,000; Montgomery County (MD.), 70,000; St. Louis, 60,000; Hollywood (Fla.), 55,000; Pittsburgh, 50,000.

Turning to the world scene, a Year Book report by Professors U.O. Schmelz and Sergio Della Pergola, of the Hebrew University, cites a total Jewish population figure of 13,027,900 in 1980. After the United States, countries with significantly large numbers of Jews are: Israel, 3,282,000; Soviet Union, 1,700,000; France, 535,000; Great Britain, 390,000; Canada, 380,000; Argentina, 242,000; Brazil, 110,000, and South Africa, 108,000.

The American Jewish Year Book is published by the American Jewish Committee in association with the Jewish Publication Society of America. The editors are Milton Himmelfarb and David Singer.

## CONSUMER GOODS PRICES SOAR

TEL AVIV, Feb. 11 (JTA) — The government slashed subsidies for the second time in little more than a month Monday, sending the prices of a wide variety of foods, goods and services soaring as of midnight Tuesday.

The price of bread was up 12 percent, frozen meat and poultry up 14-20 percent and gasoline up 6-7 percent. The prices of heating oils, margarine, butter, milk and other dairy products also rose.

The Finance Ministry informed the Knesset of increases in the price of electricity and postal services. But the Knesset Finance Committee said those raises were illegal because it was not given an opportunity to discuss them before they were put into effect, as required by law. The Finance Ministry had no comment on its failure to consult with the Knesset panel.

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JERUSALEM (JTA) — Arab merchants in East Jerusalem called a general strike Thursday to protest what they claimed were excessive taxes levied on them by the Israeli authorities. But according to police reports, about 65 percent of the businesses shut down in the morning re-opened later in the day after merchants were warned that court orders would be issued against them.