

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## CONCRETE RESULTS ENGENDERED BY MITTERRAND'S VISIT TO ISRAEL

By David Landau, Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, March 7 (JTA) -- A Franco-Israel joint commission, which has not met since relations between the two countries deteriorated after the Six-Day War, will meet in Paris next month to begin translating into concrete results the renewed friendship engendered by French President Francois Mitterrand's visit to Israel last week. The joint commission will be headed by the directors general of the French and Israel Foreign Ministries.

In May, Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir will pay an official visit to Paris. There are also plans for other ministers and senior officials to exchange visits.

Shamir summed up the Mitterrand visit at today's Cabinet session, amid a profound feeling of satisfaction in Israeli government circles at the visit itself and at what it may hopefully portend in the form of improved relations with France.

Shamir and other Israeli leaders feel that the visit itself -- even before any practical spinoffs have evolved from it -- was a major political success for Israel. Mitterrand was the first French head of state to come here. He fully intended, Shamir ventured on television last night, that his visit herald better relations between Israel and France, and between Israel and other major European powers.

### Sees France, Israel Drawing Closer

Shamir noted in a TV interview and again in his Cabinet briefing that while Mitterrand, in his Knesset address last Thursday, spoke openly in favor of a Palestinian state, he stressed that he did not seek to impose his views nor did he support the concept of a European initiative separate from American peacemaking efforts in the region.

Israel for its part, said Shamir, believed it could draw closer to France across a wide spectrum of bilateral matters despite the political differences over the key Palestinian issue. This approach, moreover, could hopefully apply to Israel's relations with other leading states in Europe, Shamir said.

He mentioned Israel's hopes for improved ties with African states as one area in which French help could materialize. France still carries major weight among its former colonies in West and Central Africa. Israel is hoping that several of the countries will resume diplomatic relations with her once the Sinai withdrawal is completed.

### Other Tangible Results Cited

Other tangible issues that could come before the joint commission -- and later be concluded at the top policymaking level -- include Israel's economic concern over the imminent Spanish entry into the European Economic Community (the effect on Israel's citrus exports), and Israel's possible interest in buying a French nuclear reactor for producing electricity.

Mitterrand left Friday. Begin, who had welcomed Mitterrand Wednesday at Ben Gurion Airport, was not at the airport to say goodbye. He was confined by his doctors to remain at home after having fallen ill during a state dinner for Mitterrand Thursday night. He returned to work Friday. A statement

issued by the Premier's office said Begin was suffering from "accumulated exhaustion" caused by the "pressure of events during the past few days." Doctors said he did not suffer from a heart attack. Begin had in the past suffered from two heart attacks and a minor stroke. He is currently recovering from a broken hip and uses a wheelchair.

### Arab Mayors Meet With Chaysson

In other events during Mitterrand's visit, four Arab mayors -- Bassam Shaka of Nablus, Karim Khalaf of Ramallah, both of whom had been injured in bomb attacks two years ago, Elias Friej of Bethlehem and Rashad a-Shawa of Gaza -- met Thursday with French Foreign Minister Claude Chaysson and handed him a five-page memorandum outlining the "plight" of the Palestinians in the administered areas.

The meeting, which took place in Jerusalem at the residence of the Consul General of France, was initiated by the French who wanted to demonstrate that even at the height of the rapprochement with Israel, they were not neglecting the Palestinian problem.

The mayors, who were joined by Dr. Abu Ghazale of Nablus, who reportedly plans to form a Palestinian-French friendship association, asked that Mitterrand intercede with Israeli authorities for the return of the mayors of Hebron and Halhoul who were deported three years ago.

The memorandum they gave Chaysson included a list of demands which called on France not to join the Camp David peace process and the multinational peacekeeping force in Sinai after Israel withdraws April 25, and also urged France to recognize the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people.

Neither Chaysson nor the Arab mayors made any comments to the press after their meeting, but Chaysson reportedly told the mayors that the issue of the deported mayors had been raised with Israeli authorities. The meeting lasted less than an hour.

### POPE CALLS FOR CONTINUED CHRISTIAN-JEWISH DIALOGUE

By Lisa Palmieri-Billig

ROME, March 7 (JTA) -- A three-and-a-half day meeting to advance the ongoing Christian-Jewish dialogue and assess the progress made since it was initiated at the Second Ecumenical Council in 1965, closed at the Vatican yesterday.

Pope John Paul II, addressing the 40 church and laymen from 15 countries, including Israel, who participated in the convocation, stressed that Christians and Jews must continue to exchange ideas "in depth and on the basis of their own identities."

His remarks affirmed the abandonment of any and all attempts to convert the Jews. The Church's "special relationship" with Jews exempt them from being subject to the Gospel commandment to "evangelize" the world, the Pontiff noted.

While this is firmly based on declarations made in the past, from the "Nostra Aetate" (In Our Time) promulgated at Vatican II to the "Catholic Guidelines" of 1978, yesterday was the first time the Pope personally addressed the delicate issue at an international gathering.

He spoke not only to Roman Catholics but to representatives of the Orthodox churches, the Anglican Communion, the World Lutheran Federation and the World Council of Churches who attended the meeting.

#### Time For 'Reciprocal Esteem'

"Incomprehensions and resentments" have marked the 2000-year relations "between the two communities," the Pope said. "And if there have been, since the day of the separation, misunderstandings, errors, we must now be concerned with transforming them into comprehension, peace and reciprocal esteem."

The meeting at the Vatican, described as a "Reunion" of experts on the Christian-Jewish dialogue, was organized by Msgr. Jorge Mejia, Secretary of the Vatican's Commission on Religious Relations with the Jews. The Commission was established eight years ago by Pope Paul VI to aid in the practical implementation of "Nostra Aetate," the charter for understanding between Catholics and Jews that emerged from Vatican II.

As Mejia declared, in his opening statement broadcast by the Vatican Radio, "The moment has arrived for us to see where we are at, what has been our progress, what our difficulties, and what the perspectives of this relationship are."

For more than three days, the delegates discussed such subjects as "how the Bible helps us to understand contemporary and ancient Judaism," the inalienable ties in Judaism between the land of Israel and the Jewish people, the problems posed by theological differences, and the image of Jews and Judaism in Catholic and other Christian teachings.

A full day study group was headed by Rev. Marcel DuBois, a French Dominican priest who is chairman of the philosophy department at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and long-time Resident of the St. Isaac House of the Dominican Order there. DuBois, who has taken Israeli citizenship, observed that a theological dialogue between Catholics and Jews can be furthered only if three points are accepted.

#### Three Points To Further Dialogue

One is that both faiths must, according to their respective religious views, "disagree" on Jesus. The agreement to disagree or the mutual acceptance of the other's difference in this respect, is essential to dialogue, he said. The second principle is that "Both Christians and Jews must accept the Jewishness of Jesus" and the third is that since the Jews and Christians are the only two religions to have the enormous conflict as a basic aspect of their respective beliefs, "the idea of Jesus unites us at the very moment it divides us."

The Pope's speech, delivered in a tone of great warmth, highlighted "the ties between the Church and the Jewish people -- based on the design of the God of the alliance." He emphasized that mutual esteem and mutual maintenance of the separate identities of Judaism and Christianity were essential aspects of the Divine Mystery.

The Pope also referred to "The terrible persecutions" inflicted on Jews by Christians in different periods of history which have "finally opened our eyes and transformed our hearts. Christians are on the good path, that of justice and fraternity, in endeavoring, with

respect and perseverance, to find themselves again with their-Semitic brothers around a common heritage so rich for all," he said.

He then asked: "Is it necessary to specify, above all for those who remain skeptical, even hostile, that this rapprochement will not be confused with a certain religious relativism and still less with a loss of identity?"

#### ISRAELI SOLDIERS, TRYING TO STOP STONE-THROWING DEMONSTRATION, WOUND TWO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS By Hay Orgel and Gil Sedaj

TEL AVIV, March 7 (JTA) -- Two Palestinian high school students were wounded by Israeli soldiers during a melee in Nablus yesterday. One, with a bullet in his stomach, underwent surgery and was reported to be out of danger. The other was hit in the leg.

According to an army spokesman, the soldiers fired into the air to break up a stone-throwing demonstration protesting the continued shutdown of Bir Zeit University. The spokesman said an investigation of the incident proved that the soldiers had acted strictly in accordance with standing orders on the use of fire arms to protect themselves.

Other student demonstrators and their parents were ordered to the local Military Government headquarters where they were held until the evening. Schools were closed in Nablus today. The parents of the detained students were summoned again by the authorities and given a warning.

#### Nine Academicians Detained And Released

Meanwhile, nine Israeli academicians were detained by the Military Government last Friday for attending a rally in Bethlehem on behalf of Bir Zeit University. They were released on bail yesterday after being charged with forcing their way past army roadblocks which had been set up to prevent outsiders from joining the demonstration.

The nine, members of the Public Committee of Solidarity with Bir Zeit, are on the faculties of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and the Tel Aviv and Haifa Universities.

They charged that the shut-down of Bir Zeit was a suppression of academic freedom. The university, considered a hotbed of Palestinian nationalism, was closed last month only a few weeks after it had been re-opened following a prolonged shut-down.

In another development, Ali Jamil, of Jenin on the West Bank, was released from prison yesterday after 7 1/2 years of administrative detention, the longest incarceration on record without trial. His release was ordered by the Supreme Court after it studied evidence against him. Although out of jail, Jamil is confined to his home town and must report to the police twice a day.

#### SHARON: ISRAEL DOESN'T INTEND TO INVADE OR ANNEX ANY PART OF LEBANON By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 7 (JTA) -- Israeli Defense Minister Ariel Sharon denied today that Israel intends to invade Lebanon but warned that Israel has the "natural right" to defend its citizens.

"Israel is looking for a peaceful solution in Lebanon," Sharon said in an interview on ABC-TV's "This Week With David Brinkley." "We don't have intentions to invade Lebanon or to attack Lebanon. Neither do we have any intention to annex any part of Lebanon."

Sharon admitted that Israel has given the United States a commitment not to move into Lebanon unless there is a "clear provocation" from the Palestine Liberation Organization terrorist forces here. Pressed

for a definition of a "clear provocation," he said it would be "when Jews in Israel are killed."

#### Brzezinski Warns Of 'Ominous' Development

But Zbigniew Brzezinski, President Carter's National Security Advisor, who appeared on the same ABC program following the Sharon satellite interview, said that he believed the Israeli official was "trying to tell us Israel prefers not to go in but that they will go in." He said this was an "ominous" development because it was part of a "general deterioration" in the Middle East.

However, Sharon stressed that Israel was working with Philip Habib, President Reagan's special envoy, to find a solution to the crisis in Lebanon. But he noted there have been violations by the PLO since the cessation of hostilities, which Habib helped to establish last July 24, was put into effect. He added that terrorist raids coming from Lebanon and going through Syria and Jordan into the West Bank have been called "technical violations" of the cease-fire.

Sharon said Lebanon is the "world center of terrorism" not only because of the 20,000 armed Arab terrorists, but also because 1,700 terrorists from around the world were trained there last year.

#### Cites Israel's Concerns

The Defense Minister warned against the possible sale of U.S. mobile Hawk ground-to-air missiles to Jordan. He said these missiles would put half of Israel, including Jerusalem, under threat endangering the existence of the Jewish State. But he avoided comment on the report that he had told a French publication that Israel would not allow the missiles to be placed in Jordan.

Sharon said Israel was concerned about the Reagan Administration's decision to remove Iraq from the list of countries supporting international terrorism and feared planes would now be sold to that country. He added Israel was also "very much concerned" that Syria would be removed from the list of supporters of international terrorism.

Sharon said Israel was not helped by President Reagan's promise to maintain Israel's "qualitative edge" militarily in the Mideast. "We do not have any intention whatsoever to proceed with this crazy arms race," he said. "We just cannot do it." He noted that he has cut Israel's defense budget by 10 percent.

Brzezinski declared that Israel, like the U.S. cannot achieve security by denying arms to its potential enemies but only by pursuing the peace process. The U.S. has "rightly" given Israel the "necessary deterrents" he said, adding the U.S. along with Israel and the Arab states should do more to promote accommodations. He said the U.S. has to "be actively and continuously engaged in the peace process," and charged that the Administration has allowed the process to lose "momentum" since Reagan came into office.

Brzezinski said that while he "respects" Israel's reasons for not wishing to deal with the PLO, the U.S. should "talk" to the PLO although not negotiate with it. He said the U.S. should tell the PLO that they have "missed the boat after Camp David" and it is in their "interest" to negotiate. This would "fortify elements" in the

PLO that are "moderate" and isolate elements that are radical, Soviet-supported and intransigent. He defined as moderate those in the PLO who are to the right of the terrorist group's leader Yasser Arafat "and in some cases" Arafat himself. He said that Arafat's public statements, such as his recent claim that he has sent help to the guerrillas in El Salvador, should be analyzed depending on what audience he is aiming at.

But Sharon earlier said that Israel told visiting French President Francois Mitterrand that Israel would never negotiate with the PLO and would not allow the establishment of a "second Palestinian state." He said Jordan is a Palestinian state because 80 percent of its inhabitants are Palestinians.

Brzezinski predicted that the radical elements of the PLO would commit an "outrageous" act between now and April 25, the day Israel is scheduled to withdraw from Sinai.

As for Israel, Brzezinski said it would put Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak under some pressure either to react adversely to what the Israelis are doing in order to "justify" a delay of the Sinai withdrawal or make Mubarak "swallow something the Israelis have done" in order "to widen the gap between him and the Arab world." He said the Israelis are afraid that Mubarak will move too quickly toward his fellow Arabs after the Sinai is returned and hoped to slow the pace down.

#### QUEBEC MINISTER REFUSES TO MEET WITH PLO REPRESENTATIVE

MONTREAL, March 7 (JTA) — The Quebec government's Minister for the Condition of Women, Pauline Marois, refused to meet with a member of the Palestine Liberation Organization's General Union of Women, Inam Abushar, after two Jewish members of the Quebec National Assembly — Harry Blank and Herbert Marx — protested Abushar's reception in the National Assembly's restaurant by Guy Bissaillon, a Parti Quebecois member of the Assembly and the president of the Council for Peace, a Moscow-oriented organization.

Marx stated that the government of Quebec should not "give legitimacy to an organization which is known above all for terrorism." Abushar's visit to Montreal was organized by the Montreal-based League for the Rights of Women in connection with the family movement's International Day of Solidarity last week.

#### WOMAN WINS DEPORTATION BATTLE

TORONTO, March 7 (JTA) — A 57-year-old Jewish woman from Yugoslavia, who entered this country illegally six years ago and was facing deportation, will be allowed to remain here. Giselle Confino-Levi, who has been supporting herself by selling flowers outside a downtown Toronto subway station, has been the subject of considerable sympathy after her plight was reported to the press.

A native of Yugoslavia, she immigrated to Israel in 1957 and then, with her husband, went to Uruguay where he was subsequently imprisoned for political dissent and has not been heard from since. Immigration Minister Lloyd Axworthy has signed a permit allowing her and her son, Daniel, 29, to remain in Canada. The case will be reviewed after one year, and if she and her son are self-supporting and law-abiding they will be granted permanent residence.

## MONDALE RAPS ADMINISTRATION'S POLICY IN THE MIDDLE EAST

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, March 7 (JTA) -- Former Vice President Walter Mondale attacked the Reagan Administration's Middle East policy, which he said was a "mess," and called on President Reagan to issue a "clear" unequivocal statement that the Administration will not sell Jordan F-16 fighter planes and Hawk mobile missiles.

"I believe this Administration should give clear and unambiguous commitment that there will be no sale of sophisticated weapons to Jordan and any other country that threatens the security of Israel," Mondale said in an address last Thursday to an Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith luncheon which honored Walter Yetnikoff, president of the CBS Record Group.

Mondale said that he "could not understand," after hearing various statements by Administration officials, whether the U.S. is going to sell weapons to Jordan. Noting that Israel has been, and was perceived by previous Administrations, a strategic asset to the United States, Mondale charged that the present Administration has moved away from Israel and in fact "began to see Israel as standing in the way of U.S. policy in the Mideast."

### Singles Out Specific Policies

He criticized the suspension of the memorandum on strategic cooperation shortly after Israeli Defense Minister Ariel Sharon and U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger signed it in Washington last December. "Israel is either in our strategic interests or is not," Mondale declared.

The former Vice President also sharply criticized the Administration's apparent lack of interest in pursuing the Camp David peace process, noting that the Administration had waited almost a full year to dispatch a special envoy to the autonomy negotiations. He charged that the Administration appointed as envoy an unknown person, who lacks the stature that the role requires. He was referring to Richard Fairbanks.

Concluding, Mondale said the U.S. should work for peace in the Mideast instead of "arming the area to the teeth."

Nathan Perlmutter, national director of the ADL, was also critical of future arms sales to Jordan, warning that such sales could lead to war. By selling arms to the Arabs, the U.S. could erase Israel's qualitative military edge over its Arab foes. Perlmutter noted that the proposed "hawking" of F-16s and mobile surface-to-air missiles to Jordan comes on the heels of selling AWACS and other weaponry to Saudi Arabia.

### BI-PARTISAN RESOLUTION URGES AGAINST ARMS SALES TO JORDAN

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 7 (JTA) -- A resolution urging the Reagan Administration not to sell any advanced weapons to Jordan, including aircraft and mobile missiles, "because they threaten the security of Israel," has been introduced by Senators Edward Kennedy (D. Mass.) and John Heinz (R. Pa.)

The two Senators also sent a letter to President Reagan last Thursday informing him about the resolution which also urges the United States to "ensure that Israel retains its qualitative military edge in the Middle East."

The resolution noted that Israel is "a stable, democratic and reliable ally" and that its security "is in the national interest of the United States." The resolution noted that Jordan had opposed the Camp David process, has "joined forces with Iraq whose government is committed to the destruction of Israel" and which plans to buy advanced weapons from the Soviet Union.

The Reagan Administration has denied that it is considering a proposal to sell F-16 fighter planes and mobile Hawk missiles to Jordan. It has said that before any decision on such a sale would be made, Congress would be consulted.

### FLORIDA BARS PARAMILITARY CAMPS RUN BY THE KKK, OTHER EXTREMIST GROUPS

TALLAHASSEE, Fla., March 7 (JTA) -- The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith praised Gov. Bob Graham and the Florida state legislature for enacting a law designed to bar paramilitary training camps run by the Ku Klux Klan and other extremist groups.

According to Arthur Teitelbaum, ADL's Southern Area director, the new law, signed here last week, "will give impetus to vigorous investigation by law enforcement agencies of paramilitary activities meant to deprive persons of their civil rights."

The Florida law follows closely a "model" bill created by ADL for introduction by state legislatures around the country. It imposes a maximum sentence of five years and a \$5,000 fine on anyone convicted of violating its provisions, and bars anyone from training persons in acts of violence intended to provoke a civil disturbance in the United States.

Florida is the fourth state nationally to adopt a measure imposing prison terms and/or fines against anyone found guilty of operating para-military camps or receiving training there. The others are Conn., N.C., and Calif. Similar proposed laws are now pending in eight additional state legislatures -- Ga., Ill., Ky., Mass., Mich., N.J., Pa., and Wisc.

### WEST BANK JEWISH SETTLERS FAIL IN EFFORT TO BLOCK MAJOR ROADS

TEL AVIV, March 7 (JTA) -- Attempts by Jewish settlers on the West Bank to block three major roads as a gesture of solidarity with opponents of Israel's withdrawal from Sinai, failed today. But severe traffic jams developed before soldiers removed the barricades. In some cases, angry drivers pushed them aside. No serious incidents were reported.

Meanwhile, the situation at Yamit in northern Sinai remained tense today, although the town was outwardly calm. The army, which had forcibly removed scores of illegal squatters from villages and makeshift encampments in the Yamit area last week took no further action over the weekend. Many of those removed Wednesday and Thursday have reportedly re-infiltrated the region.

While leaders of the stop the withdrawal movement vowed to continue their resistance, the Jewish Agency's settlement department has arranged to resume the dismantling of farm equipment and mobile homes in Yamit and other Sinai settlements for relocation in Israel. The dismantling was halted last month when militant settlers clashed with Jewish Agency workers. This time, troops are standing by to provide protection for the workers.

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TEL AVIV (JTA) -- Special U.S. envoy to the Middle East Philip Habib returned here Sunday and will meet Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir in Jerusalem Monday.