

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## GOLAN DRUZE ACCEPT COMPROMISE SOLUTION TO PROBLEM OF I. D. CARDS

TEL AVIV, May 3 (JTA) -- Golan Heights Druze, now in the 16th week of their strike to protest the extension of Israeli law to the region, were reported today to have accepted a compromise solution to the problem of Israeli identity cards which the Israeli authorities insist they have.

Under the proposal, worked out by an Israeli Druze judge from Haifa, the Golan Druze would be given a choice of what nationality and religion should be entered on their cards. The Golan residents insist they are Druze by religion, Arabic by language and ethnic background, and Syrian by nationality. Those who claim Syrian nationality would not be entitled to welfare benefits from Israel.

The proposals are reported to have been forwarded to the Israeli authorities for their examination and possible acceptance.

## BONN DENIES REPORT THAT SCHMIDT WILL NOT VISIT ISRAEL AS LONG AS BEGIN REMAINS IN OFFICE

By David Kantor

BONN, May 3 (JTA) -- The government today promptly denied a report in Der Spiegel that Chancellor Helmut Schmidt said he would not visit Israel as long as Premier Menachem Begin is in office. The denial was conveyed immediately to the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem by German and Israeli diplomats.

The swift response was in contrast to the sluggish reaction by the Bonn authorities to similar reports in the past. On previous occasions, anti-Begin remarks attributed to the Chancellor by the same news magazine were not denied for weeks or months after publication and sometimes not at all.

It was clear that both countries are now anxious to avoid a recurrence of the personal attacks on the Chancellor made by Begin before Israel's Knesset elections last June which severely strained German-Israeli relations.

The foreign Ministry here is also trying to prevent another affront to Israel on the basis of a report in Der Spiegel today that Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher has postponed his projected visit to Israel. A Ministry spokesman said the visit will probably take place after the NATO summit meeting here in June. He noted that Genscher could not have postponed his visit because no firm date had been set.

## TERRORIST DETAILS PLO COLLABORATION WITH THE RED BRIGADE IN ITALY

By Lisa Palmieri-Billig

ROME, May 3 (JTA) -- Antonio Savasta, on trial for the murder of former Premier Aldo Moro and other criminal acts, has given Italian authorities details of Palestine Liberation Organization collaboration with the Red Brigade in Italy, including extensive weapons supplies.

According to Savasta, who confessed that he gave the orders to kill Moro, the PLO delivers arms to the Red Brigade for their own use and to be stor-

ed for PLO terrorist acts on Italian soil. He said a weapons shipment handed over in Cyprus included ground-to-air missiles, machine guns and bombs of various types. Another shipment smuggled into Italy from France contained Kalachnikov automatic rifles, hand grenades and guns.

Savasta claimed the PLO has two arms caches in Italy, one in Mondello and the other in Sarnadegna. Both were subsequently discovered by police. The terrorist reportedly told his interrogators:

"The reasons behind this relationship (between the PLO and the Red Brigade) were that the PLO, despite the fact that (Yasir) Arafat has relations with national states, was also interested in attacks on a military level in Europe against Zionist embassies and political and military personnel. It was in relation to this request that the Red Brigade began an investigation of the military attache of the government of Tel Aviv in Rome."

## BEGIN: ANY PROPOSAL TO DISMANTLE JEWISH SETTLEMENTS IN FUTURE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE REJECTED

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, May 3 (JTA) -- Premier Menachem Begin and Labor Party chairman Shimon Peres stated to the Knesset today their respective positions on the future status of the occupied territories and the Jewish settlements located in them.

Although the policies of the Likud-led government and those of the opposition are well known, the sharp divergence between them was made clear as each man mounted the podium to address the Knesset which reconvened today after its Passover recess.

Begin declared that it was "obvious" that "any proposal, in a future peace negotiation that Jewish settlements be removed or withdrawn will be rejected." He said this was "obvious" in terms of his government's overall political platform which is to "raise Israel's claim and right to sovereignty over Judeaea, Samaria and Gaza" after the five-year transition period of autonomy called for by the Camp David accords.

Quoting from his government's "basic policy guidelines" formulated when the present Cabinet took office last August, Begin noted that "when the day comes that our State sovereignty will apply to Judeaea, Samaria and Gaza, we will keep and maintain full autonomy ... as agreed at Camp David and as to be implemented through negotiations which, I assume, will shortly be resumed."

Until last weekend, Begin had intended to present his government's position in the form of a binding Knesset resolution that no Jewish settlement will ever be removed as part of a peace agreement with any Arab country. But he abandoned that idea when informed by Peres last Friday that Labor would not support such a resolution. Although the government believed it could be passed by the Knesset, its adoption by a slim majority would have seriously weakened the intended "declarative impact." Peres, who spoke directly after Begin, criticized the settlement statement as "untimely"

and as a dangerous distortion of political realities. He said that a Labor-led government would place settlements only in security areas, around Jerusalem, in the Jordan Valley, the Etzion bloc, southern Gaza and the Golan Heights. The Likud policy has been to plant settlements in the most heavily Arab-populated regions of the West Bank.

Peres stressed that in any peace talks in which a Labor government was involved it would strive to keep extant Jewish settlements intact while the question of ultimate sovereignty was resolved "in negotiations without pre-conditions."

Peres charged that Begin's statement on the settlements reflected his "bad conscience" over the evacuation of Yamit in Sinai. He recalled explicit pledges by Begin during his first administration in 1977 and 1978 that the Yamit area settlements would never be removed. "Where are those promises now?" he asked. He expressed the Labor Party's contention that the Yamit settlements might have been preserved during the 1978 peace talks with Egypt.

In that connection, he read excerpts from former Defense Minister Ezer Weizman, a major participant in the Camp David and Egyptian-Israeli peace negotiations, who claimed that matters might have been arranged differently with the Egyptians had not Begin and "certain others" -- a reference to Defense Minister Ariel Sharon -- not been half-hearted about peace with Egypt.

#### Defends Halting El Al Flights

Begin devoted the greater part of his address to defending the Cabinet's decision yesterday to halt El Al flights on the Sabbath and religious holidays. He argued that the Sabbath is a noble concept that Jewry gave the world and the national air carrier of the Jewish State must not flout it.

Begin expressed the Orthodox point of view when he stated that the issue must not be determined by purely economic factors. He noted that observant Jews in the diaspora in years gone by had "lost a lot of money" by keeping their shops closed on the Sabbath when local authorities refused to allow them to open on Sundays. According to a report by a government-appointed committee, the financially troubled El Al stands to lose some \$40 million a year because of the Sabbath ban.

Begin was heckled vigorously on the El Al issue by Laborites who saw the Sabbath ban as a surrender to the Orthodox Aguda Israel in order to preserve his government's narrow Knesset margin.

Begin said his government would not "take account of any threats," a reference to warnings by El Al employees that they would fight against the Sabbath ban, possibly by a general strike. He urged El Al workers "to maintain industrial peace for the next several years," claiming that if they did, "El Al will no longer need subsidies to stay alive."

Begin said the three-month deadline for imposing the Sabbath ban was firm. In that way he sought to allay suspicion by the Aguda Israel that the government intended to drag its feet, possibly until new elections are called.

#### ARENS WARNS U.S. ARMS SALE TO ARABS THREATENS TO 'ERASE' ISRAEL'S QUALITATIVE ARMS EDGE

GROSSINGER, NY, May 3 (JTA) -- Israel's Ambassador to the United States, Moshe Arens, warned here that the sale of sophisticated

American weapons to those Arab states still in a state of war with Israel threatens to "erase" Israel's qualitative military superiority and thereby discourage Arab participation in the Camp David peace process.

The Israeli envoy, addressing 350 delegates to the American Jewish Congress national biennial convention, also claimed that Israel's biggest concession for peace was not the just completed withdrawal from Sinai but its willingness to negotiate autonomy for the Palestinians on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, because the outcome of the autonomy talks are unpredictable.

#### Two Conditions Are Being Violated

Arens agreed that the U.S. and Israel share not only democratic values but a "common interest in opposing Soviet penetration" of the Middle East. However, he added, "The fact that we share common goals does not mean that we must agree on the means to achieve them. We differ on the danger to Israel of American arms shipments to countries that are in a state of war with us. Such arms shipments violate the two essential conditions" of Arab-Israeli peace.

"First, that because the United States and Israel act in concert, no Arab country can be hostile to Israel and still receive American military and economic aid; second, that Israel is strong enough to deter or discourage renewed Arab attack. Recent U.S. actions fly in the face of those two principles, threatening to shake the whole structure on which the Arab-Israeli truce is based."

Arens referred specifically to the sale of AWACS reconnaissance aircraft to Saudi Arabia, a type of aircraft Israel does not have, and to present indications that Jordan will ask for -- and the Administration will recommend -- the sale of F-16 jets and Hawk mobile air defense systems to Jordan.

He said that the sale of such equipment to confrontation states, plus "the huge amounts of Soviet-supplied weapons they already have ... means that Israel's former qualitative edge is not merely eroded, it is erased. This can only tempt the Arabs to try once more to liquidate the Jewish State."

#### View Of The Autonomy Scheme

With respect to the autonomy scheme, Arens said: "No one can predict what those talks will decide. Some people say autonomy is a one-way street to a Palestinian state -- and that would surely pose a mortal danger to Israel's security. Thus, the open-ended agreement we signed at Camp David carries within it the possibility of great peril for Israel. Yet our country was willing to take the risk in the hope of bringing peace that much closer."

Arens noted that to date no Palestinian Arab group has accepted the offer to negotiate autonomy. "That is because the Arabs of Judea, Samaria and Gaza are terrorized by the PLO which has succeeded in assassinating numerous Palestinian Arabs who spoke out in support of peaceful co-existence with Israel," he said.

#### U.S. Jews Must Not Be Silent

The AJCongress convention adopted a resolution declaring that American Jews must not be silent on American foreign policy for fear of arousing anti-Semitism.

In an apparent reference to criticism of American Jews for opposing last year's AWACS sale to Saudi Arabia, the resolution deplored "the fact that Jews are singled out for disparagement as a community whose attachment to America is to be held under constant scrutiny. Other ethnic and nationality

groups in this country -- such as Greek Americans opposed to arms for Turkey -- correctly and freely exercise their right to criticize aspects of U.S. foreign policy, with no one presuming to impugn their standing as Americans."

#### STATE DEPARTMENT WON'T CONFIRM U.S. WEAPONS SALE TO JORDAN

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, May 3 (JTA) -- The State Department refused to confirm today that the Reagan Administration has decided to sell weapons to Jordan.

"We have been holding discussions with the Jordanians about the possibility of some military sales," Department spokesman Dean Fischer said. He added that he had nothing to announce at the present and stressed that any proposed sale would have to be approved by Congress.

Fischer was responding to a question about reports that at last week's meeting in Jordan between U.S. Defense Department and Jordanian officials, the U.S. agreed to sell Jordan F-5G aircraft which is superior to the present American-made fighters Jordan has and Stinger anti-aircraft missiles, a missile which can be fired from the shoulder of an infantryman.

The Pentagon officials reportedly offered these weapons while turning down the F-16 jets and Hawk mobile anti-aircraft missiles the Jordanians want. Since it was reported earlier this year that the U.S. may sell those weapons to the Jordanians, there has been an outburst of opposition to the sale in Congress.

Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, in a Pentagon briefing to the Leadership Conference of the World Assembly of Jewish War Veterans last week, said he would look favorably at a request from Jordan to "upgrade" their air force and to institute mobile anti-aircraft defenses. He said that Jordan is threatened by both Iran and Syria.

But he stressed that any arms sales in the region would take into consideration the United States' "unswerving commitment to Israel's military superiority." Meanwhile, the Reagan Administration is not expected to formally propose any arms sales to Jordan until after the November Congressional election.

#### BRITAIN, ISRAEL AT ODDS OVER ISRAELI ARMS SUPPLIES TO ARGENTINA

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, May 3 (JTA) -- Israel's Energy Minister, Yitzhak Berman addressed an Israel Bonds Independence Day dinner here. But his remarks, at what was intended to be a festive occasion, reflected growing bitterness between Israel and Britain over reported Israeli arms supplies to Argentina and the British government's perceived tilt toward the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Berman rebuked Britain and Western European countries for what he called their double standards over the Falkland Islands and Middle Eastern conflicts. He said that while Britain felt free to give advice to other countries, "I am not sure they can solve their own problems at the other side of the world or in nearby Northern Ireland."

He said that Britain was accusing Israel of intransigence, but the same charge was being leveled against Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher for invoking the same articles of the United

Nations Charter as those cited by Israel in defense of its policies. Berman also indicated Israel's chagrin for not being given sufficient credit in the West for the sacrifices it made in returning Sinai to Egypt.

He quoted American oil experts as saying that if Israel had not given up the Sinai and Red Sea oil fields, it would have become an oil-exporting country by the middle of this year instead of remaining dependent almost entirely on costly oil imports.

#### JEWISH SCHOOL CHILDREN IN GERMANY ARE TARGETS OF ANTI-SEMITISM

BONN, May 3 (JTA) -- A Jewish student spokesman charged that Jewish children in West Germany are regular targets of anti-Semitic verbal attacks by their schoolmates and many youngsters are afraid to attend kindergarten because they are exposed to anti-Semitic insults.

According to Jacky Bigel, spokesman for the Association of Jewish Students in Bavaria, Jews attending West German universities are also exposed to anti-Semitism and cannot live without fear unless they conceal their identity. Bigel said it was commonplace that Jewish religious services could be conducted only under heavy police guard in synagogues protected by high fences.

Bigel made his remarks in a declaration on the 34th anniversary of Israel's independence. He said the students' association regretted that the Bonn government was moving away from its historical special relationship with Israel.

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NEW YORK (JTA) -- Theodore Mann, chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, reported Monday that only 288 Jews arrived in Vienna during April. This figure represents a 93 percent plummet from the 4,296 Jews who departed from the USSR that month in 1979, a peak year for Jewish emigration.

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TEL AVIV (JTA) -- May Day celebrations throughout Israel were in a lower key than usual this year, because of the Sabbath. The largest demonstration and workers' rally was in Tel Aviv, where some 35,000 members of Socialist Zionist youth movements marched along Ibn Gevriol Street, virtually cutting the city into two for several hours. Slogans carried by the marchers denounced settlements in Arab areas of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

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PARIS (JTA) -- A Jewish art museum will be set up in Paris with the help of the Ministry for Culture and the Paris municipality. Cultural Affairs Minister Jack Lang told the National Assembly that his department will cover the museum's operating costs and is currently negotiating to help its creation. Paris Mayor Jacques Chirac had earlier announced that the municipal council is prepared to put at the museum's disposal the Hotel de Saint-Aignan, a historic building situated near the traditional Jewish "Platzel."

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JERUSALEM (JTA) -- The president of Israel's Supreme Court, Justice Moshe Landau, retired from the bench last week upon reaching the mandatory retiring age of 70. He served as a judge for 40 years and is considered the last of the founding generation of Israel's legal system and judicial establishment. Landau is succeeded as president by Justice Yitzhak Kahan, a religious justice.

## SPECIAL INTERVIEW PEACE WITH EGYPT NOT SEEN AS A PROBLEM FOR UJA FUNDRAISING EFFORTS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, May 3 (JTA) -- Robert Loup, the incoming United Jewish Appeal national chairman, who is visiting Israel for high level talks prior to taking office May 20, does not see Israel's peace with Egypt as a potential problem for UJA's fundraising efforts.

On the contrary, he told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in an interview here, "some of Israel's problems are going to grow as a result of shrinking borders. United States Jewry has got to understand that our partnership, through the UJA, is not based on war or peace -- but on a desire to enhance the quality of Jewish life, both in Israel and in the U.S."

Loup, a builder from Denver, Colo., sees Project Renewal as becoming increasingly focal in UJA campaigning. It represents, he said, "the opportunity for our generation, for those who were not able to contribute towards Israel's birth, to be part of Israel's rebirth."

The twinning of diaspora communities with target areas in Israel -- city suburbs or development towns -- "gives a connection that we haven't had before between Jews in Israel and abroad... people in the U.S. and elsewhere becoming deeply involved... are meeting and working with Israelis directly," Loup said.

### Turned On About Project Renewal

Project Renewal is moving forward now after years of teething pains usually ascribed to the Israeli bureaucracy. Loup said the UJA side of the operation was not blameless, either. "It took us time to get our act together," he remarked.

Now, however, UJA missions are coming back "very turned on about Project Renewal," and the UJA's efforts are directed at getting this enthusiasm on the part of people who have visited and seen with their own eyes transmitted to the broader American community.

He stressed that UJA's basic policy is still not to accept pledges for Project Renewal that could come as a substitute for regular UJA giving. In practical terms that means that a contributor's Project Renewal gift will not be accepted unless a pledge is first made to the current campaign -- and that gift is in line with past years' giving.

Loup acknowledged that UJA went through a weak patch during the mid and late 1970's (after the Yom Kippur War year high) when receipts were not matching inflationary increases. But recent years have seen enormous efforts invested, he said, and the results are good and getting better. The latest projection for the 1982 campaign is that it will bring in some \$580 million, Loup said.

### A Changing Mood In The Jewish Agency

He envisaged tough discussions during this spring and summer over the Jewish Agency's budgetary problem. The Agency is facing huge debt-service charges, and is having to sell off assets.

Loup and UJA executive vice chairman, Irving Bernstein, told JTA they were confident that diaspora leadership was already playing an enhanced role in managing Agency policy -- and this trend would markedly grow in the future. "There is a changing mood in the Agency today," Bernstein said. "You will see a changed Jewish Agency."

Loup and Bernstein stressed that with money tight, the UJA and Keren Hayesod top leadership

would be demanding streamlining and budget-effectiveness in the Agency -- and would be in a position to ensure that improvements were forthcoming.

Loup flatly refused to be drawn by Israeli journalists into pronouncements on Israeli policy matters -- especially towards any overt or implied criticism of the Begin government. It is "not the role" of the top UJA leadership, he stressed to Israeli interviewers, to become embroiled in Israeli policy issues.

To JTA, Loup expressed concern at encountering repeatedly in Israel the view that UJA's contribution (some \$300 million for Israeli social welfare and education) was minor in comparison with U.S. government aid to the Jewish State.

The true perspective, he asserted with vigour, was that U.S. government officials, Congressmen and Senators, regarded the UJA campaign as an expression of the American Jewish community's commitment to Israel. If UJA giving dropped significantly, Washington would immediately conclude that the level of that commitment was falling, Loup said.

### MAYOR OVERRULED ON ISRAELI FLAG

TORONTO, May 3 (JTA) -- A decision by the mayor of Samia in Ontario Province that an Israeli flag could not fly over City Hall during Israel Independence Day celebrations in that city was overruled by the City Council. Robert Slipacoff, head of the Jewish community in Samia, had asked for permission to raise the flag as had been done in previous years on the occasion of Israel's anniversary.

Mayor Marcel Saddy refused, saying he was of Lebanese descent and that Israel has indiscriminately bombed his parents' homeland for which Israel had been condemned by the United Nations. The City Council met last Wednesday morning and debated the flag-raising issue and then overruled the mayor by a vote of 6-1. The negative vote was cast by the mayor.

### JDL HITS AEROFLOT OFFICES

NEW YORK, May 3 (JTA) -- Several dozen members of the Jewish Defense League hurled bottles and rocks at the midtown Manhattan offices of the Soviet airline Aeroflot yesterday afternoon immediately following the conclusion of the 11th annual Solidarity Sunday for Soviet Jewry rally. The attack shattered a window of the Aeroflot offices, the police reported.

Of the 18 JDL members originally detained when the group was confronted by police, three were subsequently arrested and charged with criminal mischief, disorderly conduct and incitement to riot, according to a spokesperson for the JDL.

JDL national chairman Meir Jolovitz, in a statement released here today said: "Unlike the many groups of the Jewish establishment, we did not have the patience to demonstrate once every year our displeasure of Soviet anti-Jewish policies." The JDL said that as long as official Soviet harassment against Jews continues, "the streets of New York will continue to remain unsafe for all Soviet officials."

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TEL AVIV (JTA) -- The army Sunday night sealed two houses in Hussan village near Bethlehem, owned by Arab villagers who reportedly admitted they laid mines on a track used by tourists not far from their village. A soldier who stepped on a mine was severely injured, an army spokesman said. During the army investigation into the incident other mines were discovered and several other suspects were detained, the spokesman said.