

# JTA daily news bulletin

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**POLITICAL STORM IN ISRAEL OVER REPORT THAT THE LABOR OPPOSITION IS SEEKING CUT IN U.S. AID TO ISRAEL AS WAY OF PRESSURING BEGIN**  
By David Landay

JERUSALEM, Nov. 17 (JTA) -- A column in the New York Times by editorial page editor Max Frankel that the Labor Party opposition wants the United States to reduce its aid to Israel as a means of pressuring the Begin government has triggered a political storm here.

The story broke in the media last night after a report on Frankel's column was sent from New York by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. The Labor Party flatly denied Frankel's report but government figures lashed out at the opposition for lack of patriotism.

## Highlights Of Times Column

Frankel, in a two-part series yesterday and Monday, wrote that "the government's opponents, in sum, are frail and timid" and "thus reduced to begging America to break Mr. Begin's political power. And it now advocates means that would have been unthinkable even a few weeks ago. The startling plea by many leading Israelis (is) that the United States reduce its economic aid to their nation."

Frankel stated that Begin's opponents "acknowledge political weakness, which is mainly due to Mr. Begin's success in rallying the large, resentful community of Middle Eastern Jews against the affluent or socialistic elites of European origin." The opposition, therefore, according to Frankel, wants the U.S. to help them topple the Begin government.

"And to that end, leading opposition figures now risk political oblivion by counselling sharp cuts in America's non-military aid of \$800 million a year," Frankel wrote. He concluded by noting: "American diplomats in Israel resist this anguished counsel ... But that so many prominent Israelis should be inviting bankruptcy to rescue their diplomacy is startling evidence of the fierce passions that now dominate politics in Israel."

Frankel himself, in a telephone interview with The Jerusalem Post yesterday, refused to identify his sources. But the Post correspondent wrote that Frankel "indicated strongly that they were top leaders -- not secondary party functionaries."

## Shamir Blasts The Opposition

Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, addressing a national convention of the ultra-rightist Tehiya Party in Jerusalem last evening, said: "Some of our critics at home even want to invoke overseas pressures to be brought to bear on the government ... but never fear. They will not succeed. The government of Israel will never surrender to pressure."

Shamir called on Tehiya to give its "verve, enthusiasm and zeal" to supporting "the government of Israel ... our government ... it is an Eretz Israel government." He said the government was under attack at home and abroad for "strengthening Jewish settlements in each and every part of Eretz Israel."

Labor's official spokesman accused Shamir of inciting against the opposition. Labor Party chair-

man Shimon Peres asserted this morning that no Laborite had made the comment to Frankel. Secretary-General Haim Barlev assured a radio interviewer that "no one in our party would have said anything so stupid or so vicious." Barlev said he himself had not met with Frankel. He raised the possibility that Frankel's report might be "a provocation" but refused to specify who might have been responsible for such a provocation.

## Justice Minister Says Report Is 'Credible'

But Justice Minister Moshe Nissim (Likud-Liberal) told reporters today that Frankel was "credible" and had plainly written what he did because he had been satisfied it reflected "a trend" within Labor.

Nissim noted that Frankel had told the Post that he "would not have written this article unless I was convinced that the view was widespread and that it was deeply felt ... It was not just one crackpot. I was startled to find how widespread the view was." Plainly, Nissim said, Frankel had met with several leading Laborites and the view he reported was a trend in their thinking.

This was "an unprecedented scandal," the Justice Minister continued. "See to what terrible lengths they are prepared to go just to try and get back into power ..."

## Cut In Aid Termed A Disaster

Meanwhile, a group of Jewish U.S. state legislators, members of the National Association of Jewish Legislators, currently visiting Jerusalem as guests of the Knesset and the World Zionist Organization, told the JTA today that if Congress decided to cut aid it "would be disastrous" for Israel. Several of the legislators pointed out that it would be virtually impossible to restore the aid once Congress cut it. The lawmakers said that in their meetings with Labor Party figures they had not heard the kind of sentiment as that reported by Frankel.

**HADDAD TELLS INQUIRY PANEL HIS MEN WERE NOT INVOLVED IN MASSACRES**  
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 17 (JTA) -- Maj. Saad Haddad, leader of the Israeli-backed Christian militia in south Lebanon, emphatically denied today that any of his men participated in the west Beirut Sabra and Shatila refugee camps massacres of September 16-18 and charged that allegations to the contrary were a conspiracy by Christians and Moslems in Beirut to discredit his forces.

Haddad, testifying before the three-member commission of inquiry into the massacres, named former Lebanese Prime Minister Saeb Salam as the key figure in the alleged conspiracy. He claimed Salam knew the identities of the killers and was covering for them. "Salam and the local Mufiti (Moslem religious leader) gave a declaration in order to deceive public opinion," Haddad said.

Haddad said residents of the camps charged that his men were among the killers because all Lebanese forces wear the same uniform. He attributed their error to panic. He insisted that his troops were confined to south Lebanon and did not cross the Awali river, north of Sidon, under an agreement with the Israeli army.

He admitted that he was in the vicinity of Beirut on September 17 while the massacres were occurring, but accounted for his movements. He said he paid a condolence visit to the family of Lebanon's President-elect Bashir Gemayel who was assassinated on September 14. The family home is in Bikfaya village 10 miles east of Beirut. Later, Haddad said, he went to Junia, 10 miles north of Beirut to visit "family" and returned to his home village of Marj Ayoun in the evening.

#### HUSSEIN: ARABS TO CONTINUE TALKS WITH U.S. IN SEARCH OF MIDEAST PEACE By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Nov. 17 (JTA) -- King Hussein of Jordan said today that the Arab states intend to continue their dialogue with the United States in the search of a global peace in the Middle East based on the American peace plan outlined by President Reagan last September. Hussein, who yesterday led a seven-member Arab delegation which met with President Francois Mitterrand, said he will meet Reagan on December 21 in Washington.

Hussein told a press conference here today that the differences between the French and the Arab stands are minimal and seem to turn around France's demand that the Palestinians extend a formal, explicit recognition to Israel's right to exist. "These are, however, theoretical arguments," Hussein said. "What we are offering is the most important thing: the end to the state of belligerency. It is a chance which should not be allowed to slip by."

"The ball is now in the field of the international community and Israel," the Jordanian king said. "We (the Arabs) are prepared to cooperate with all the countries in the world." Hussein stressed that the American plan "contains many positive items" and underlined his decision to continue discussions and negotiations with Washington on this basis.

#### COURT RULES IN FAVOR OF TWO JEWISH WOMEN KARATE CHAMPIONS By Haskell Cohen

NEW YORK, Nov. 17 (JTA) -- Two American women karate champions, both denied places on the United States amateur Karate team for refusing to participate on tryouts scheduled for Rosh Hashanah, have won federal court orders that they be accepted as full team members.

Lea Sukenik of New York City and Pam Glaser of Newton, Mass. both had advised the Karate Association that, as observant Jews, they could not join the tryouts. Because both were national title winners, they were told they would be given special consideration for membership. The U.S. team will go to Taiwan for the international championship competition November 27-28.

But the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU), which runs the team, refused to abide by the promise and the two women champions took their case to the federal courts. On Monday, Federal District Court Judge Robert Carter in New York City and Federal Court Judge Rya Zabel in Newton ordered the two athletes be accepted as full participating U.S. team members.

Ms. Sukenik, a graduate of the Beth Jacob Yeshiva of Forest Hills, N.Y. and of Brooklyn College, has been an instructor in a karate school in Brooklyn. She now teaches at the Shokotan Karate Institute in Forest Hills, Ms.

Glaser won a place on the U.S. team in floor competition several years ago. Experts consider her one of the best in the nation.

The suit for Ms. Glaser was filed by the American Jewish Congress office in Boston. She testified that she had notified the AAU repeatedly about her religious beliefs and asked for a re-scheduling of the tryouts.

#### KOHL SAYS HE INTENDS TO STRENGTHEN GERMANY'S RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Nov. 17 (JTA) -- Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany, declaring that he intends to "strengthen and intensify" his country's relations with Israel, told a delegation of American Jewish leaders at a meeting here yesterday "that I fully support the Camp David peace process and I conveyed this view to the American officials in Washington with whom I met earlier this week."

Kohl also pledged that he would not recognize the Palestine Liberation Organization. He said he looked forward to visiting Israel in his official capacity next year.

The delegation he met with at the Plaza Hotel was headed by Julius Berman, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. Berman described the session as "warm and cordial" and said the Jewish leaders were "deeply pleased by the welcome we received and the discussion that followed."

Kohl, leader of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU), took office at the end of September. His new government, in partnership with the Free Democratic Party (FDP), succeeded the Social Democratic government headed by former Chancellor Helmut Schmidt. Kohl described himself to the Jewish leaders as a "spiritual grandson" of former Chancellor Konrad Adenauer.

He was referring to the late West German leader, the first post-war Chancellor, who signed the reparations agreement with Israel which set the stage for a rapprochement between Germany and the Jewish people.

With respect to his government's relations with the Arab countries, Kohl said Germany traditionally had close cultural and scientific links with the Moslem world and would continue to maintain those ties. He hinted that he would be prepared to play an intermediary role in any confidential Israeli-Arab dialogue.

Recalling his recent meeting in Bonn with Knesset Speaker Menachem Savidor on the occasion of the convention of the German-Israel Friendship Association, the Chancellor observed that while seeking closer relations with the Jewish State, "we cannot back everything that Israel does." But he was emphatic in stating his position on the PLO.

"You know my position. I refuse to recognize or receive the PLO unless fundamental changes occur on the Arab scene -- changes which I cannot now foresee," he told the Jewish leaders.

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TEL AVIV (JTA) -- The curfew imposed by the Israeli army on the Lebanese town of Aley, on the Beirut-Damascus highway, was lifted for a few hours Wednesday to allow residents to lay in stocks of foodstuffs. The curfew was imposed Tuesday to halt fierce fighting between Druze and Christians in the mountainous Shouf region of Lebanon. Meanwhile, the Israeli police unit which has been probing the collapse of the building in Tyre housing the army's local headquarters has virtually ruled out PLO sabotage as the cause of the blast.

## DULZIN CALLS FOR A NEW 'CHALLENGING PARTNERSHIP' BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE DIASPORA

By Murray Zuckoff

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 17 (JTA) -- Leon Dulzin, chairman of the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Executives, called for a "new challenging partnership between Israel and Jewish communities throughout the world." He defined that partnership as a "unity of commitment" in confronting Israeli-diaspora "common tasks and common agenda" for "the creative survival of the Jewish people."

Addressing several hundred delegates to the 51st General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations, Dulzin noted that there are difficulties within Israel these days and between Israel and the diaspora, but "we will solve this." The "reality of Israel is the force that unites Jews around the world and is also the unifying element in Jewish communities in the United States."

### Role Of The Jerusalem Program

Dulzin said the common tasks and common agenda in Israeli-diaspora relations is based on the Jerusalem Program which was adopted by the World Zionist Congress in 1968. The five-point program states that the aims of Zionism are:

"The unity of the Jewish people and the centrality of Israel in Jewish life"; "The ingathering of the Jewish people in its historic homeland, Eretz Israel, through aliya from all countries"; "The strengthening of the State of Israel which is based on the prophetic vision of justice and peace"; "The preservation of the identity of the Jewish people through the fostering of Jewish and Hebrew education and of Jewish spiritual and cultural values"; and "The protection of Jewish rights everywhere."

Dulzin said that in line with this program, "aliya and its promotion is a top priority and should be on the agenda of every Jewish community organization." Another top priority, he said, is Jewish education, formal and informal.

Focusing on aliya, Dulzin said that a strong Israel "requires more Jews. Our economy needs the skills of Jews from the Western world." In addition, aliya is not only important for Israel "but also for diaspora communities. It strengthens links to Israel and Israel is linked to the diaspora with bonds of family."

### Cites Some Common Tasks

Among the common tasks facing Israel and the diaspora, Dulzin cited the need to rescue Jews in distress in the Soviet Union and Ethiopia. He pledged that Israel "will bring all Ethiopian Jews to Israel."

Regarding the "tragic situation" of Jews in the USSR, he warned that "if neshira (dropout) continues to grow it will hurt Jewish emigration." He rejected the idea that Soviet Jews are refugees. "They have a place to go, and that place is Israel," he declared. "The road from the Soviet Union should be to Jerusalem and not to New York or Paris or London."

Regarding Jewish education, Dulzin said that "a major task is to assure that Jews remain Jews. We are losing our people to assimilation and intermarriage. In the old days it was hard to be a Jew but Jews remained Jews. Today it is easier to be a Jew but it is also easier to disappear as a Jew into the general scene. I have my own definition of Who is a Jew. A Jew is one who helps his children remain a Jew."

He stressed repeatedly that it is imperative "to maintain the unity of the Jewish people despite differences we may have." He noted that while many things divide us "what unites us is Israel." Dulzin did not spell out what differences he had in mind, but hinted that the differences were over the war in Lebanon.

He indicated this when he noted that Israel is deeply involved in sorting out the tragedy of the women and children who were killed in the refugee camps in west Beirut. He said that after the Yom Kippur War Israelis called for a commission of inquiry to investigate the lack of preparedness. "They were investigating themselves," he said. "Now the investigation is about other people."

Citing his dream for Israel's future, Dulzin said he wants an Israel that exemplifies morality and Jewish principles. "We do not want to become another Sparta and be known for our military strength," he declared.

### Loup Castigates The Media

Robert Loup, general chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, who also addressed the forum which dealt with Israel-diaspora relations, castigated the media for its "wild distortions" of the war in Lebanon, with its highly exaggerated and unconfirmed stories about the numbers of people who were killed or made homeless.

He charged that the media was guilty of "bigotry and even anti-Semitism" in its use of "code words such as 'genocide', 'holocaust', and 'Nazis' to describe Israel's action in Lebanon." Loup said that the media "missed the real story -- the real sacrifice Israeli soldiers made not to harm civilians in Lebanon."

The UJA leader pointed to the sharp contrast between the media coverage of the Sabra and Shatila camps massacres and the media insensitivity to the deaths of Jews at the hands of terrorists. Citing by name major newspapers, wire services, TV networks and columnists in this country which produced reams of copy about the massacres but paid scant, if any, attention to Jewish victims around the world, Loup declared:

"Where was the media when a Jewish woman was killed in Antwerp, an Israeli diplomat murdered in Paris, and an Israeli Ambassador wounded in London? Does any President have on his desk a photo of Stefano Tasch, the two-year-old child who was killed in Rome when the synagogue was bombed?"

This last was an apparent reference to the photo President Reagan allegedly kept on his desk of the Lebanese child who was described in the caption as amless but which UPI, which distributed the photo worldwide later conceded had been mislabeled. Medical reports showed that the infant suffered a broken arm. The photo was used to symbolize the suffering of the Lebanese people during the war.

Loup also stressed the need for unity between American Jewry and Israel. He said that this unity was being manifested despite questions and concerns over Israel's policies. "I am gratified by the willingness of our people to give to UJA's Israel's special fund and the 1983 general campaign," he said. "If we don't raise money, won't Israelis also feel that we don't understand them?"

### Plight Of Ethiopian Jews

Another speaker at the forum was Simcha Destel, an Ethiopian Jew. He told the audience that in Ethiopia today "it is very hard to live as a Jew. Jewish schools are closed by the order of the government. Teaching Hebrew is prohibited by the government. Jews are not allowed to meet together even in small groups of three. There is no communications between

villages. We are becoming more and more isolated. We cannot wait much longer." In a fervent plea to the audience he declared: "Bring us home to Israel." Destel said he was a free man because of the help he received from the Los Angeles Jewish Federation and the Jewish Agency of Israel.

#### ISRAELI STUDENTS IN THE U.S. ON EXCHANGE PROGRAM

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17 (JTA) -- A 16-year-old Israeli youth who spent five weeks in the United States as an exchange student stressed last night that such programs not only allow teenagers to get to know different people and learn about other cultures but also to learn to understand their own culture better.

Yeshayahu Feinsob of Jerusalem said that while living in Atlanta and Los Angeles with American families and attending schools in the two cities, he was asked to describe his life in Israel and by doing so it helped him to understand it more.

Feinsob spoke at a ceremony at the Israel Embassy here marking the fifth year of an exchange program in which high school juniors from Israel and the U.S. spend five weeks in each other's country. The program is sponsored by the Israel Public Council for the Exchange of Youth and Young Adults, the America-Israel Friendship League and the Council of Great City Schools, an organization made up of the 32 largest school districts in the U.S.

#### 85 U.S. Students To Go To Israel

The 85 Israeli students who just completed their stay in the U.S. in which each of them spent time with families in two cities will meet in New York tomorrow with the 85 American students who are leaving for Israel.

Samuel Husk, executive director of the Council of Great City Schools, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that almost all the American youngsters are not Jewish, many of them are Blacks and Hispanics. He said they will spend time in five Israeli cities as well as on kibbutzim. He noted that the program was started from a State Department grant but now is funded locally with committees in each city raising the money needed to support the stay of the youths there.

The ceremony last night, hosted by Israeli Consul General Benjamin Abileah, was attended by members of the U.S. Department of Education, Israeli officials, representatives of the organizations sponsoring the program and some families who hosted the Israeli students in the Washington, D.C. area. Education Secretary Terrel Bell was presented by the students with a portfolio of Jerusalem scenes done by 10 Israeli artists. He said both Israel and the U.S. placed a high value on education and such programs "strengthen the ties" between the two countries.

Isaiah Robinson, of the American Israel Friendship League said he believed the students have gained from the "exposure to the diverse culture of the United States." Arye Haas of the Israel Public Council said that the program fulfills the Biblical tenet that learning builds peace. "If they learn to understand each other today... they will have great peace tomorrow," he said.

#### RABBI BEZALEL ZOLTI DEAD AT 63

JERUSALEM, Nov. 17 (JTA) -- A crowd numbering tens of thousands attended funeral rites

here yesterday for the Ashkenazic Chief Rabbi of the city, Rabbi Bezalel Zolti. He died suddenly during the night from a heart attack. He was 63 years old.

A long-time member of the Supreme Rabbinical Court of Appeals, he was regarded as a foremost halachic expert, answering written queries from rabbis around the world.

As Chief Rabbi of Jerusalem, Zolti triggered controversy by insisting on high standards of Sabbath observance in the capital's hotels. But the hoteliers themselves came to respect him in time for his consistency and principled but fair approach.

His learned works in halacha are called "Mishnat Yaabetz" (acronym for Yaacov Bezael Zolti). He also headed a flourishing yeshiva in Jerusalem, Yad Aharon, and was rabbi for many years of the Ohel Rivka Congregation in the Jerusalem suburb of Rehavia where he resided. Born in Vitebsk, Russia, Zolti came to Palestine as a boy and studied at the Hebron Yeshiva.

#### RACHEL KAGAN DEAD AT 94

TEL AVIV, Nov. 17 (JTA) -- Rachel Kagan, long-time president of WIZO (the Women's International Zionist Organization), died in Haifa on Monday at the age of 94. She was buried in Haifa today.

Ms. Kagan was born in Odessa to a well-known Hovevei Zion family. She married Dr. Noah Kagan in 1913. Ms. Kagan established the Hebrew women's organization, later WIZO, in Haifa, where she had settled, and combined her WIZO activities with other social services in Haifa.

She was also head of the social services of the Va'ad Leumi, was a member of the provisional government and a signatory of the Declaration of Independence. She served in the first and fifth Knessets. She became WIZO's honorary president in 1978.

#### RABBI ABRAHAM AVRUTICK DEAD AT 72

WEST HARTFORD, Conn., Nov. 17 (JTA) -- Funeral services were held Sunday for a former president of the Rabbinical Council of America, Rabbi Abraham Avrutick, who died here Saturday at Mount Sinai Hospital, two days after suffering a stroke. He was 72.

A leading spokesman for Orthodox Judaism, Avrutick was spiritual leader of the Agudas Achim Synagogue for the last 36 years and was founder and a former president of the Rabbinical Council of Connecticut.

Born in Kherson, Russia and brought to Montreal in 1922, Avrutick graduated from Yeshiva University in 1934 and was ordained following his graduation from the university's Rabbi Issac Elchanan Theological Seminary in 1936. He was awarded an honorary doctorate degree in 1966.

He served as editor in 1960 of the Semon Manual of the Rabbinical Council and was also a board member of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations. He served as president of the Rabbinical Council from 1962 to 1964. Before that he had been secretary-treasurer and vice president of the Council.

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JERUSALEM (JTA) -- A new denomination banknote, worth 500 Shekels, is to go into circulation in Israel at the end of this month. It will bear the portrait of Baron Edmond de Rothschild, the "Father of the Yishuv," who was the key supporter of the early Jewish settlements in Israel.

At present the highest denomination note is the 100 Shekels, bearing the portrait of Zeev Jabotinsky. Today it is worth a mere three dollars.