

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## SHAMIR'S VISIT TO ZAIRE IS DESCRIBED AS 'HISTORIC'

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 2 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir described his three-day visit to Zaire as "historic" when he returned from that central African nation last night. It was the first official visit by an Israeli Foreign Minister to Zaire since it broke diplomatic relations with Israel in 1973, during the Yom Kippur War. Formal ties were resumed six months ago and Israeli officials were saying today that Shamir's visit bridged the nine-year rupture "as if it never existed."

Only one formal agreement was concluded, however, during Shamir's stay in Kinshasa. It is a framework for economic cooperation, signed yesterday. Israel will provide professional and organizational guidance in the field of agriculture.

Israel will also grant military assistance to Zaire. But it is understood that the two countries will not sign a broad military agreement beyond the military protocol signed by Defense Minister Ariel Sharon when he visited Zaire a year ago.

Officials stressed that Israel will not sell Zaire Soviet weaponry captured during the war in Lebanon last summer. They played down reports in the Israeli media that President Mobutu Sese Seko had angrily rejected such an offer. According to some Israeli correspondents who accompanied Shamir, Mobutu "raged" at the reports in the Israeli media and because of them he refused to accept weapons captured from the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Syrians. (See related story.)

The returning Israeli correspondents also reported that Shamir's visit aroused great interest in neighboring African nations particularly because the Foreign Minister was accompanied by a large entourage of Israeli businessmen and industrialists offering investment projects. This underlined the potential economic benefits that could develop from the restoration of diplomatic ties with Israel, the correspondents reported.

### Visit Triggers Partisan Disputes

Nevertheless, Shamir's visit triggered partisan political disputes in Israel. The Labor Party demanded today that Shamir "tell the entire truth" about his visit to Zaire and dismissed the "rosy" reports by the Foreign Ministry. While government circles described the military connection between the two countries as "a very promising one" and Shamir spoke confidently of an Israeli "come-back" in Black Africa, Laborites contended that Mobutu has reservations over a defense pact with Israel and fully supports the PLO.

Mobutu apparently does not want to worsen his relations with the Arab countries, already strained by his resumption of diplomatic ties with Israel. He reportedly did not raise the issue of the PLO in his talks with Shamir. But at a State banquet for the Israeli visitor, Zaire's Foreign Minister, Kamanda Wa Kamanda, suggested that the PLO has a role to play in solving the Palestinian problem. Kamanda is expected to pay a return visit to Israel in the next few months.

Shamir reportedly promised Mobutu that Israel would do what it could to help improve Zaire's image in Washington as a barrier against Communism in Africa and therefore worthy of American support. Many members of Congress have expressed displeasure over the alleged repression of human rights by the Mobutu regime.

The opposition Citizen Rights Movement in Israel was sharply critical of Shamir's trip. While it accepted the importance of renewing Israel's ties with Black Africa, it charged that Shamir's visit to Kinshasa created the impression that Israel was helping a dictator strengthen his regime.

### ZAIRE REASSERTS ITS CONTINUED SUPPORT OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE'S RIGHTS AS REPRESENTED BY THE PLO

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Dec. 2 (JTA) -- Zaire reasserted today its continued support "for the rights of the Palestinian people as represented by the Palestine Liberation Organization" and said it will neither buy nor "accept as a gift" weapons captured by Israel from the PLO in Lebanon.

The statement was issued by Zaire's Embassy here less than 24 hours after Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir of Israel concluded a state visit to Kinshasa as the guest of President Mobutu Sese Seko. According to Israeli press reports, Israel and Zaire signed a number of agreements providing for agricultural and military cooperation during Shamir's three-day visit.

The Zairian statement, issued by Ambassador Mokolo Wa Npomba, said: "Establishing diplomatic ties with Israel does not change Zaire's recognition of Palestinian rights ... Zaire does not intend to reorganize its armed forces by taking advantage of the misfortune (in war) of the PLO." Israeli press reports from Kinshasa said that Israel was offering Zaire Soviet and Western manufactured weapons it captured during the war in Lebanon to help Zaire reorganize its army and security forces.

The strongly worded statement was issued, according to Zairian diplomats in Paris, on instructions from "the highest authorities" in Kinshasa.

### Reasons For The Statement

According to French diplomatic sources, the statement was issued on Mobutu's orders to try to prevent a possible deterioration of Zaire's relations with the Arab states and France as a result of its closer ties with Israel.

After President Francois Mitterrand's election in May, 1981, France welcomed improved Israeli relations with Africa. In recent months this policy has changed and Paris now wants to preserve the French-speaking African states under its sole influence. The Zaire statement was apparently issued both to soothe French worries and to appease the Arab world.

### BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY DISAPPOINTED WITH ISRAELI, ARAB RESPONSES TO REAGAN'S INITIATIVE

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Dec. 2 (JTA) -- British Foreign Secretary Francis Pym expressed disappointment with

both the Israeli and Arab response to the Middle East peace initiative announced by President Reagan September 1. But he criticized Israel more sharply for refusing Reagan's call for a freeze of settlements on the West Bank.

Pym spoke at a meeting of Jewish leaders from the Commonwealth countries, organized Tuesday by the Board of Deputies of British Jews. He stressed that despite his criticism of Israel's negative response to the Reagan proposals, Britain had "deep respect" for Israel, its democracy and freedom.

He observed in that connection that Israel was demonstrating the health of its democracy by its investigation of the West Beirut refugee camps massacres. "There are precious few countries in the world which have the courage or confidence to subject their government's actions to public scrutiny this way," he said.

Pym told the meeting that some of the reactions on the Arab side to the Reagan initiative had been "disappointingly negative," although there has not been a considered Arab reaction. But, he added, "I have to say that I was disappointed by the Israeli reaction to President Reagan's proposals. Mr. Begin does not accept them even as a basis for discussion."

Pym maintained that the continued establishment of Jewish settlements on the West Bank and Gaza Strip was "a profound disservice to the cause of peace." He said Israel's rejection of a settlement freeze "does more than anything else to undermine confidence that Israel truly seeks a peaceful accommodation with her Arab neighbors."

The Foreign Secretary did not support the creation of a Palestinian state on grounds that this was only one possible solution and that the Palestinians must decide for themselves how to implement their aspirations. By the same token, he said that "Only Israel can decide what is in her own security interests. She is right to test all peace proposals under this essential criterion."

#### PROBLEM FOR EL AL'S CARGO SERVICE

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 2 (JTA) -- The impending liquidation of El Al has created problems for the airline's cargo service, the only branch still operating. One cargo jet was held up for debt payment at Frankfurt airport yesterday and another was delayed at Cairo airport. Both were released after the Israeli government assured El Al creditors that it assumes full responsibility for payments due.

The aircraft which landed a cargo of agricultural produce at Frankfurt was detained by the authorities against some \$240,000 owed by El Al to the airport. Local officials said the plane would not usually be held for such a relatively small debt, except for the uncertainty of El Al's future.

Similarly, an El Al cargo plane which brought cows from Amsterdam to Cairo was unable to take off because the European company that supplies its fuel demanded immediate payment in cash. The Transport Ministry in Jerusalem contacted the European head office of the fuel supplier to guarantee payment. Ministry officials said they were trying to make suitable arrangements at Amsterdam and New York to avoid delays when El Al planes land there today.

Meanwhile, El Al shareholders who voted to liquidate the company are expected to petition the district court this Sunday to appoint a receiver.

#### D'AMATO SAYS SENATE UNIT RECOMMENDS MORE AID FOR ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Dec. 2 (JTA) -- Sen. Alfonse D'Amato (R. N. Y.) announced here that his amendment to restore \$12 million to the American Schools and Hospitals Abroad program, which provides aid in 34 countries including Israel, has been accepted by the Senate Foreign Operations Subcommittee and is expected to be taken up by the full Senate next week. The program provides financial assistance to American sponsored hospitals and schools and these in turn provide education, health care and vocational training services.

D'Amato also told the Zionist Organization of America Brandeis Award Banquet Tuesday night at the Sheraton Centre, that the Senate subcommittee also recommended that a greater chunk of the aid during fiscal year 1983 be in the form of a grant rather than a loan, as was the case in fiscal 1982.

The Senator told the 300 banquet guests that during fiscal year 1982, assistance totaled \$1.4 billion of which \$550 million was in the form of a direct grant to Israel. "The President had requested a funding level of \$1.7 billion for similar assistance during fiscal year '83," D'Amato said. "According to the President's proposal, \$1.2 billion would have been in the form of a loan while the remaining \$5 million would have been provided through grants."

The recommendation by the Senate subcommittee "stipulates that \$850 million be provided in the form of a loan and an additional \$850 million will serve as a grant," the Senator said. "Therefore, Israel will benefit from an additional \$350 million in grants according to the subcommittee's recommendation. This will result in a 21 percent increase in military assistance to Israel."

In addition, during fiscal year 1982, non-military and economic support to Israel totaled \$785 million and the Administration requested continued funding at that level for fiscal year 1983, D'Amato said. But the Senate subcommittee also recommended an increase of economic support programs to Israel at the full authorization of \$910 million, he stated.

#### Says Israel Has Not Lost Its Soul

Ivan Novick, ZOA president, said that Israel's friends in Washington and in local communities will have to work harder and more skillfully "to balance the misinformation and the lack of information about Israel" and to counter "unprecedented funds and forces arrayed against Israel."

He stated that there is no reason for Jews to feel ashamed of Israel and its leaders. "Let us not gnaw away at its foundations, let us not undermine its morale, let us not malign its leaders," Novick declared. "There is no reason -- no reason whatsoever -- for Jews to sit 'shiva' for Israel's soul. Neither the Jewish State nor the Jewish leaders have lost their souls."

On the contrary, he said, it is "the soul of the world that is mutilated when it continues to encourage the PLO to believe that it has a future" by such actions as Pope John Paul II embracing PLO chief Yasser Arafat.

Jules Ritholz, a ZOA leader and a New York City tax accountant, was the recipient of the Brandeis Award.

#### WATT: VICTIMS, SURVIVORS OF THE HOLOCAUST NEED MORE THAN MEMORIALS

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2 (JTA) -- Interior Secretary James Watt said today that both the victims and

the survivors of the Holocaust should be remembered not only by memorials but also by "protecting liberty and spiritual freedom."

"Those who are devoted to the memory of the victims of the Holocaust should also be the most outspoken in the demand that America develop its resources wisely so that strategically, economically and militarily we will be prepared to defend ourselves and others," Watt told the semi-annual meeting of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council.

Watt swore in Rabbi Seymour Siegel as executive director of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council. Siegel is on leave from the Jewish Theological Seminary of America where he is Ralph Simon Professor of Ethics and Theology. Siegel is also president of the American Jewish Forum, a group organized to promote conservative political ideas among American Jews.

Also sworn in today were three new members of the Council: Herbert Katz of Hollywood, Fla. Dr. Ruth Miller of Shaker Heights, Ohio; and Edward Rosen, president of the Federation of Jewish Agencies of Greater Philadelphia. Two other new members of the 65-member Council, Laurence Tisch of New York and Albert Spiegel of Los Angeles, were not present.

Elie Wiesel, chairman of the Holocaust Memorial Council, observed that Israel and the U.S. are the only countries which have recognized the importance of the Holocaust and sought to keep its memory alive through monuments.

The Council is planning and raising funds for a living memorial/museum for the Holocaust on the Mall here. The Council also directs the annual Week of Remembrance of the Holocaust which next year will include the first American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors, April 11-15. A gathering of Holocaust survivors took place last year in Jerusalem.

#### 9 SELECTED TO JEWISH INTERNATIONAL SPORTS HALL OF FAME

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 2 (JTA) -- Joseph Siegan, chairman of the Executive Board of the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame, announced today that nine selections have been made by the International Selection Committee, chaired by Haskell Cohen, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency's sports editor, at a meeting held recently in Israel.

The induction into the Hall of the nine selectees will take place during the early part of 1983 at the Wingate School of Physical Education in Netanya, Israel.

A total of nine former sports greats, including four Americans, were designated to join the 57 Jewish athletes already selected by the Committee.

Heading the American list is Abe Attell, the former world featherweight champion, a title he held for 11 years; Max Zaslofsky, the All-American basketball player from St. John's University, who starred in the NBA ranks from 1947 until 1956; Walter Miller, generally considered the greatest jockey of the early 20th century; and weightlifter Frank Spellman, who established an Olympic record of 860 lbs in the middle-weight class when he won the gold medal in 1948 in London.

The non-American selectees include Ted "Kid" Lewis the English boxing champion in world welterweight division from 1915 until 1919; Mark Midler of Russia, who gained two gold medals

as a member of the Soviet National Fencing Team at the Rome and Tokyo Olympics; the South African Jody Scheckter who became world champion automobile racing driver in 1979; Richard Weisz of Hungary, the 1908 Olympic gold medal winner in the heavyweight class in Greco-Roman style grappling at the London Olympics; and Lilly Kronberger, the Hungarian skating ace who reigned as world champion (1908-1911) in figure skating.

Americans previously selected for installation in the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame include the following:

**BASEBALL:** Al Rosen; Barney Dreyfuss; Hank Greenberg; Sandy Koufax.

**BASKETBALL:** Adolph Schayes; Abe Saperstein; "Red" Auerbach; Eddie Gottlieb; Nat Holman; Harry Litwak.

**BOWLING:** Sylvia Wene.

**BOXING:** Barney Ross; Jackie Fields; Benny Leonard; Barney Lebowitz.

**FOOTBALL:** Benny Friedman, Marshall Goldberg; Sid Luckman; Ron Mix.

**HANDBALL:** Jim Jacobs.

**HORSERACING:** Hirsch Jacobs.

**ICE SKATING:** Irving Jaffee.

**SOCCER:** Hakoah-Vienna; Arthur Baar.

**SPORTSCASTING:** Mel Allen.

**SWIMMING:** Mark Spitz; Charlotte Epstein.

**TENNIS:** Dick Savitt.

**TRACK & FIELD:** Lillian Copeland; Lon Myers; Myer Prinstein.

**WEIGHTLIFTING:** Isaac Berger.

**WRESTLING:** Henry Wittenberg.

**YACHTING:** Zefania Carmel/Lydia Lazarov.

By action of the Executive Board of the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame, no athlete can be voted into the Hall during the course of their active participation. The Sports Hall originally founded in the U.S. in 1978, is a project of the U.S. Committee Sports for Israel.

#### GENSCHER'S VIEW OF WEST GERMANY'S MIDDLE EAST POLICY

By David Kantor

BONN, Dec. 2 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher told a group of Arab officials here that there is a continuity in the Middle East policy of the new West German government headed by Chancellor Helmut Kohl and that of the previous government under Chancellor Helmut Schmidt.

Genscher, a member of the Free Democratic Party (FDP) who served as Foreign Minister in both governments, said Bonn still supports the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and still adheres to the 1980-Venice declaration by the heads of the 10 European Economic Community (EEC) member states which, among other things, called for the "association" of the Palestine Liberation Organization in the Middle East peace process.

Genscher's remarks once again underlined apparent differences over Middle East policy within the governing Christian Democratic Union-FDP coalition. While Kohl appears to be moving toward an improvement of relations with Israel and plans to visit that country next year, Deputy Foreign Minister Juergen Moelleman recently warned Israel not to entertain the "illusion" that Bonn's policy has changed.

Moelleman also contradicted a recent statement by his fellow Deputy Foreign Minister, Alois Mertes, that the Venice declaration is not relevant to the Middle East policies of the present government.

## TRIAL OF JEWISH ACTIVIST UNDER WAY

NEW YORK, Dec. 2 (JTA) -- The trial of refusenik activist Feliks Kochubievsky began yesterday in a court in Novosibirsk, it was reported here by the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. The 52-year-old electrical engineer, who was arrested September 12, has been charged with "circulation of fabrications known to be false which defame the Soviet state and social system." He faces a penalty of up to three years imprisonment.

Kochubievsky of Novosibirsk, has been the target of KGB harassment since he and his wife Valentina applied for visas to Israel in 1978. He was denied permission to join his two sons there on grounds of "regime considerations." His subsequent efforts to re-establish a "USSR-Israel Friendship Society" exacerbated his already strained situation. He was denounced by the Soviet authorities as a "counter-revolutionary," although at one time he had been awarded the Soviet Order of Merit for Patriotic Work and had earned his Kandidat of Technical Sciences degree.

## Shcharansky's Mother Hospitalized

In another development, the National Conference reported that Ida Milgrom, the mother of Prisoner of Conscience Anatoly Shcharansky, has been hospitalized in Moscow as a result of extreme emotional stress. According to the Conference, the emotional stress is due to concern about her son who began a hunger strike September 27 in Chistopol prison. Shcharansky is protesting the denial by prison authorities of his correspondence and visitation rights. No information has been made available by prison authorities since Shcharansky began his fast, 65 days ago.

Mrs. Milgrom and her other son, Leonid, were scheduled to depart for Chistopol on November 19. The sudden collapse caused the 75-year-old woman to postpone the near 500-mile journey. She had hoped to meet with prison officials to obtain information on her son's condition and planned to remain there until the authorities would release details. Mrs. Milgrom fears that the hunger strike could lead to Shcharansky's death.

Her fears are shared by Shcharansky's wife, Avital, who lives in Jerusalem and who has been in the United States for the past eight weeks on her husband's behalf. Mrs. Shcharansky has not seen her husband since 1974 when she was permitted to emigrate.

## NUDEL ALLOWED TO SETTLE IN MOLDAVIA

NEW YORK, Dec. 2 (JTA) -- Former Prisoner of Conscience Ida Nudel, who was refused her right to return to her home in Moscow upon completion of her sentence of Siberian banishment and had wandered from city to city, has finally received permission to settle near Kishinev, the capital of the Moldavian republic, according to the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry (SSSJ) and Union of Councils for Soviet Jews (UCSJ).

The two groups also reported that two hunger strikers have ended their fasts, each after 40 days, but without receiving exit visas. They are Moscow refusenik International Grand Master Boris Gulko, the Soviet Union's former national chess champion, and Kharkov activist Yuri Tamopolsky. Gulko's chess colleague and former Moscow champion, Dr. Anatoly Volovich, continues his hunger strike for emigration.

Meanwhile, Jewish cultural activist Boris Chernobitsky has been permitted to return to his home in Moscow after completing a one-year prison term. He had been arrested at an unofficial Jewish commemoration in the Moscow woods, the SSSJ and UCSJ reported.

## EMIGRATION NEARS STANDSTILL

NEW YORK, Dec. 2 (JTA) -- Charlotte Jacobson, chairman of the Soviet Jewry Research Bureau of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, reported today that only 137 Israeli visas were issued to Jews in November.

## CANADIAN LABOR LEADER REJECTS UNION'S PRO-PLO RESOLUTION

By Ben Kayfetz

TORONTO, Dec. 2 (JTA) -- Dennis McDermott, president of the Canadian Labor Federation (CLF), said he rejected a pro-PLO resolution overwhelmingly adopted at last week's convention of the Ontario Federation of Labor (OFL) and that he was prepared to test the issue at the next meeting of the CLF's executive council.

The OFL, which represents some 800,000 trade unionists, recognized the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. But the OFL's president, Clifford Pilkey, later interpreted that endorsement as being conditional on the PLO's recognition of Israel. McDermott denounced the PLO last July as a terrorist organization.

Meanwhile, Mira Koschitzky, chairperson of the Canadian Jewish Congress' Ontario Region, sent a telegram to the OFL taking sharp issue with its recognition of the PLO. Koschitzky reminded the OFL that Israel is the only state in the Middle East with free trade unions.

## RIVLIN REPORTS ON JNF ACTIVITIES

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 2 (JTA) -- The Jewish National Fund provides Israel each year with an additional 30,000 dunams of land for agriculture and a further 20,000 dunams of sapling forests. This was one of the statistics cited by JNF chairman Moshe Rivlin in a survey of the JNF's activities since the last World Zionist Congress five years ago.

Rivlin, who presented a report on JNF activities to the World Zionist Organization Executive, stressed that the Negev is perhaps the JNF's main challenge in its primary task of providing more useful and usable land for the state. The JNF, Rivlin pointed out, had added tens of thousands of acres of farmland and forests to the Negev over the five-year period under survey. It also planted some 250 kilometers of wind breaker trees in the Negev.

Rivlin focused on the JNF's road-building work the new Pitah Shalom settlement area near the Sinai border to which several former north Sinai settlements have been moved. He said the JNF also played a key role in the creation of the string of "mitzpim" (hilltop settlements) in Galilee, building roads to the sites, and preparing the land and infrastructure in these virgin areas. He emphasized that wherever necessary, the JNF works with landscape architects to avoid or to minimize damage to scenery from development work.

Raanan Weitz, co-chairman of the WZO settlement department, praised the JNF for its massive efforts, in close cooperation with his department, in preparing the groundwork for new settlements.