

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## ISRAEL-LEBANON TALKS MARKED BY ANGRY EXCHANGE By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 1 (JTA) -- A clash between the Israeli and Lebanese delegates marked the 19th round of talks aimed at a political and security settlement in Lebanon, held in the Lebanese town of Khalde this morning.

The plenary meeting, at which the United States was a participant, lasted only 15 minutes. Afterwards, the delegations adjourned for private consultations and later resumed talks on the subcommittee level.

But there was reportedly an angry exchange between the chief of the Lebanese delegation, Antoine Fatale, and his Israeli counterpart, David Kimche, after Kimche made it clear that Israel has not changed its position in response to new offers from Lebanon. A spokesman for the Lebanese delegation accused Israel of "intransigence" on grounds that it is not prepared to accept Lebanon's compromise proposals for mutual relations and security arrangements.

Lebanon's proposals were conveyed to the Israeli leadership yesterday by U.S. special Ambassador Philip Habib. Israeli sources said they would be considered this week by the ministerial steering committee on the Lebanese negotiations. The differences between the two sides on security arrangements in south Lebanon were said to be over details but were "basic" with respect to the normalization of relations.

### Tension Rising Between IDF, UNTSO

Meanwhile, tension was reported to be rising between Israeli forces in Lebanon and the small international group comprising the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) which was established after the 1948 armistice agreements.

The Israelis accused UNTSO of extending its patrols recently to the Beirut-Damascus highway in violation of an agreement confining the observers force to Beirut. They also charged UNTSO with passing information about Israeli troop movements to Syrian and other forces. A spokesman for UNTSO, which consists of only 50 officers, rejected the Israeli complaints. He said the UNTSO mandate specifically requires it to monitor the situation "in and around Beirut."

### SAGUY RESIGNS AS CHIEF OF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

TEL AVIV, March 1 (JTA) -- Maj. Gen. Yehoshua Saguy resigned today as chief of military intelligence, an army spokesman announced. His resignation had been called for by the commission of inquiry into the Beirut refugee camps massacre. Another senior officer, Brig. Gen. Amos Yaron, cited by the commission for negligence, has been stripped of his command.

The army spokesman said Saguy would be replaced temporarily by Brig. Gen. Arye Ben-Tov until a new army intelligence chief is selected. Saguy had apparently hoped to remain in his post until a permanent replacement was named.

The three-man inquiry panel, headed by Supreme Court President Yitzhak Kahan, severely criticized Saguy for failure to provide sufficient warning that a massacre of Palestinians was likely if Israel allowed Christian Phalangist forces to enter the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps.

Yaron, commander of Israeli troops in Beirut at the time of the massacre, was blamed by the commission for not taking sufficient measures to end the mass killings. The commission recommended that he not be given a front line command for three years. Yaron was relieved today of his divisional command but will remain commander of paratroops.

### WEST GERMAN CANDIDATE FOR CHANCELLOR ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN A NAZI YOUTH MOVEMENT MEMBER By David Kantor

BONN, March 1 (JTA) -- West Germany's election campaign has generated new heat over allegations that Hans-Jochen Vogel, the opposition Social Democratic Party's (SPD) candidate for Chancellor, was an ardent Nazi when he was a member of the Hitler Jugend, the Nazi youth movement, during World War II. Most political observers dismiss the charges as without serious consequences, although a spokesman for Vogel promptly denied them. But the injection of that issue into the campaign has triggered public discussion of the political involvement of West Germany's current leaders during the Nazi era. Vogel, born in 1926, was a member of the Hitler Jugend between 1941-43, after which he served as a soldier in the Wehrmacht. The weekly Bild Am Sonntag reported that another former Hitler Jugend member, Ernst Holler, charged at an election campaign meeting that Vogel would intimidate his comrades in the youth movement and preached to them about loyalty to the Fuehrer.

Holler, a veterinarian, is an active member of the Christian Socialist Union (CSU), the Bavarian sister party of the ruling Christian Democratic Union (CDU). He made his charges against Vogel at a CSU party rally. He claimed that Vogel once had him reduced in rank in the Hitler Jugend and stated in writing that he was unsuitable to participate in building up National Socialism.

Vogel's brother, Bernhard Vogel, a member of the CDU and Prime Minister of Rhineland-Palatinate, said it was ridiculous to claim Hans-Jochen Vogel was a Nazi loyalist on the basis of an incident 40 years ago when his brother was only 16.

### ISRAEL, EGYPT TO RESUME TALKS ON DISPUTED TABA REGION By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 1 (JTA) -- Israel and Egypt will resume their long-suspended negotiations over the disputed Taba region near Eilat this week. The talks will get under way at Ismailia, in Egypt, tomorrow and continue through Thursday. The Israeli delegation will be headed by Shmuel Dvion of the Foreign Ministry and Brig. Gen. Dov Sion, the army's chief

liaison officer with the Egyptians. The initial session will deal solely with Taba, a strip of beach on the Gulf of Aqaba which Israel claims and which Egypt insists is part of Sinai. But agreement was reached to discuss other matters of mutual concern at later negotiating sessions.

That is consistent with Israel's long-standing position that the Taba dispute must be taken up in the context of normalization of relations between Israel and Egypt and implementation of their peace treaty signed in 1979.

#### Focus Is On Interim Agreement

Cairo broke off the Taba talks after Israel invaded Lebanon last summer. The session at Ismailia tomorrow will focus on an interim arrangement, not a final settlement of the dispute. The distinction was made in an accord signed by Israel and Egypt last April 25, the day before Israel completed its withdrawal from Sinai.

That accord provided that no new construction projects should be undertaken on the 700 meter-long beachfront but it allowed projects already underway to continue. Israel, therefore, completed the multi-million dollar Sonesta, a luxury resort hotel which as been doing a brisk business since it opened late last year. The Egyptians claim, however, that opening the hotel was an infringement of the April 25 accord.

Under the terms of the Israel-Egyptian peace treaty, disputes that cannot be settled by negotiation must be submitted to "conciliation or arbitration." Egypt is pressing for arbitration. Israel is opposed on grounds that the other stages have not yet been exhausted.

#### FRENCH CP LEADER SAYS HE IS READY TO MEET AVITAL SHCHARANSKY

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, March 1 (JTA) -- French Communist Party leader Georges Marchais announced today that he is ready "and waiting" to meet Avital Shcharansky, the wife of the Soviet Jewish activist serving a prison sentence. A Communist Party communique said Marchais is expecting Mrs. Shcharansky at his office Friday afternoon. The announcement did not say whether the date and place have been jointly agreed upon.

Mrs. Shcharansky said last month that she would like to meet Marchais to ask for his intervention on her husband's behalf but that he has refused to see her. Today's announcement, prominently carried by the French Communist daily, L'Humanite, apparently answered her demand.

Marchais last month released a message from Soviet leader Yuri Andropov saying that Anatoly Shcharansky has stopped his hunger strike. Andropov's letter was in reply to a telegram from Marchais asking for details concerning the Soviet activist's health and his chances to be freed from detention.

With only a few days to go before the French municipal elections, the first major electoral test since the June 1981 leftwing parliamentary victory, Marchais is apparently trying to improve the image of the Communist Party. His meeting with Mrs. Shcharansky is scheduled to take place two days before the municipal vote, March 6.

Meanwhile, some 100 Jewish demonstrators last night interrupted the opening performance by the Soviet Georgian Republic's official Ballet company. The demonstrators, who had purchased tickets or obtained invitations, distributed leaflets and car-

ried placards calling upon the Soviet Union to permit Jewish immigration to Israel and to grant full religious and cultural rights to Soviet Jews.

#### 3 YEARS IN LABOR CAMP FOR FORMER POC

NEW YORK, March 1 (JTA) -- Simon Shnirman, a 25-year-old Soviet Jew and former Prisoner of Conscience, was sentenced on February 15 to three years in a labor camp on draft evasion, it was reported by the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. The sentence followed his arrest on January 12.

Shnirman has already served two-and-a-half years at hard labor under similar charges. During that time, he was singled out by camp authorities for special punishment: non-delivery of mail and food parcels and denial of visits from his mother. He was released on November 29, 1980.

He first applied to emigrate in 1977 and was denied permission on the pretext that "he did not work long enough to pay for money invested by the State in his studies." As a bachelor and only son, the law stipulates that he is exempt from the draft.

#### RESEARCHER JAILED FOR 7 YEARS AND 5 YEARS INTERNAL EXILE

NEW YORK, March 1 (JTA) -- Valery Senderov, a non-Jewish Moscow mathematician who helped compile statistical proof of the exclusion of Jews from institutions of higher learning in the USSR, was sentenced to 12 years' punishment today, the maximum term for "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda," it was reported by the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry and the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews.

Senderov, 37, will serve seven years in a labor camp and five years in internal exile. His Jewish colleague in the research effort, Boris Kanevsky, was sentenced to five years' banishment in Siberia a month-and-a-half ago.

#### MAN GETS SUSPENDED SENTENCE FOR DISTURBING THE PEACE AT FATAL RALLY

JERUSALEM, March 1 (JTA) -- A man convicted of disturbing the peace at the Peace Now demonstration here on February 10, during which a man was killed and nine persons were wounded when a grenade was thrown at the demonstrators, was sentenced today to a one-year suspended sentence, and a 25,000 Shekel fine by a Jerusalem magistrate.

Benayahu Aharoni, the convicted man, appeared pleased with the sentence and hugged waiting relatives after he and his attorney emerged from the judge's chambers. The prosecution had earlier agreed to drop a charge that Aharoni had directly threatened Emil Grunzweig, the 33-year-old teacher who was killed. The person who threw the grenade has still not been identified.

#### LEON ARONOVITZ DEAD AT 87

NEWTON, Mass., March 1 (JTA) -- Funeral services were held here yesterday for Leon Aronovitz, one of the founders of Temple Emanuel 45 years ago and a founder of Yeshiva University's Einstein College of Medicine in New York City. Aronovitz died last Saturday at the age of 87.

A life-long resident of Newton, Aronovitz was a retired pharmacist and a 32'd Degree Mason. He was the father of Robert Arnow, former president of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency and presently chairman of its Executive Committee.

# LAWMAKERS RAP ADMINISTRATION FOR ITS REFUSAL TO RECOMMEND FOR 1984 ADDITIONAL FOREIGN AID TO ISRAEL THAT CONGRESS AUTHORIZED FOR 1983

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 1 (JTA) -- The Reagan Administration felt the ire of members of the House yesterday over its refusal to recommend the additional \$200 million grant in foreign aid to Israel for the 1984 fiscal year that Congress authorized for 1983.

The displeasure was directed at Nicholas Veliotis, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, as he testified before the House Foreign Affairs Committee's subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East on the Administration's request for \$2.485 billion in aid to Israel in 1984, the same as this year.

The proposal includes \$1.7 billion in foreign military sales financing, \$550 million of which would be a grant and \$785 million in economic aid, all of it a grant. While the Administration is proposing that the military aid grant be \$50 million more than the \$500 million it recommended in 1983, the proposal is actually \$200 million less than Congress approved.

When Rep. Lee Hamilton (D. Ind.) the subcommittee chairman, suggested that this amount is a reduction in aid to Israel, Veliotis replied "I don't believe the question is relevant," since the Administration opposed the grant franchise last year. "In due course, you'll find it is relevant," Hamilton told him.

## Cites Traditional Commitment To Israel

In his prepared testimony, in which he called the U.S. aid program to Israel "the material manifestation of our traditional commitment to Israel," Veliotis said that the \$50 million increase the Administration recommended "for the military grant" is motivated by our understanding over Israeli concerns over their debt burden, coupled with our own analysis of that situation and our own budgetary constraints.

Throughout his testimony, Veliotis stressed that the Administration believes that the amount recommended for Israel is "sufficient" particularly in an "austerity year." He stressed that to provide the additional \$200 million in grants would mean taking funds "out of the hides" of other countries that also need U.S. aid.

## Reactions By Legislators

Rep. Mel Levine (D. Cal.) said that, as a freshman Congressman, he could not understand how the Administration could "ignore" the will of Congress. Rep. Stephen Solarz (D. N.Y.) pointed out that since the \$785 million economic aid figure has remained unchanged since 1978, it is a decrease in aid in real terms.

Veliotis said that the Administration was "trying to run a world-wide program, not just a Middle East program and certainly not just an Israeli program."

Rep. Robert Toricelli (D. N.J.) said by not recommending the additional \$200 million grant, the Administration might be perceived as attempting to exercise some "coercion" on Israel. Veliotis replied that this would be true only if \$2.5 billion could be considered a "sanction." He stressed that the foreign aid proposal is a "strong vote of confidence in Israel."

Rep. Ed Zschau (R. Cal.), a freshman, suggested that conditions be placed on Israel aid to get Israel to cooperate on such issues as freezing Jewish settlements on the West Bank. Veliotis rejected this. He said one purpose of the aid program was to encourage Israel to feel secure "perhaps super-secure," so that it could "take risks for peace."

## Says People Are Questioning Aid To Israel

The only other opposition to the Israeli aid program came from another Californian, Rep. Mervyn Dymally, a Democrat in his second term, who said that for the first time since entering public life, he found that people in his district had been raising questions about aid to Israel. Levine quipped that his Los Angeles county district is next to Dymally's and he gets the opposite reaction from his constituents.

Dymally said that from 1974 to 1982, the United States provided Israel \$22.8 billion in aid, twice the amount given all of Africa and 25 percent more than Latin America. Veliotis replied that this amount can be justified since it is part of the U.S. effort in the Mideast to achieve "an area of stability and security."

Dymally also noted that it was difficult to justify aid to Israel because of the economic conditions in the United States, particularly since Israel has rejected President Reagan's peace initiative, continued to build settlements on the West Bank and has not withdrawn its troops from Lebanon.

Rep. Larry Smith (D. Fla.) noted that the aid program helps create jobs in the U.S. since Israel buys more from the United States than it receives in economic assistance and all of the military loans and grants must be used to purchase American-made equipment.

In outlining the Israeli aid program, Veliotis also listed an additional \$15 million in regional programs. This includes \$7 million for development on the West Bank and Gaza, which goes to American volunteer agencies dealing with education, community development, water storage and agriculture. Another \$7 million is provided for cooperative scientific, technical and other programs of mutual interest to Israel and its Arab neighbors. The final \$1 million is for project development.

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NEW YORK (JTA) -- The Soviet Jewry Research Bureau of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry reported that 123 Jews were permitted to leave the Soviet Union in February.

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JERUSALEM (JTA) -- Officials of the Foreign Ministry will not attend a reception Tuesday evening in honor of visiting Norwegian Foreign Minister Sverre Stray. But no slight is intended. A new work rule for Foreign Ministry staff at home and abroad which went into effect Tuesday does not require them to work after 6 p.m. Stray is in Israel on a four-day official visit.

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BONN (JTA) -- The old Jewish cemetery of Aschaffenburg, south Germany, has been desecrated. Five tombstones were completely demolished and many others were painted with Nazi and anti-Semitic slogans. Police are investigating, and the municipality has promised to repair the damage without delay.

## BEHIND THE HEADLINES HEBREW LESSONS FROM CAIRO

By Judith Kohn

CAIRO, March 1 (JTA) -- Hebrew lessons by radio are nothing new in Israel, a country ever seeking to expand its Jewish population by absorbing new immigrants. But one of these "Let's speak Hebrew" series has an unlikely source. The program is being broadcast from the television and radio building in Cairo, and among its listeners are Egyptian students of Hebrew language at Cairo University, Ein Shams and El-Azhar.

In existence since shortly after the Egyptian revolution of 1952 that subsequently brought Gamal Abdel Nasser to power, "Kol Kahir" -- as the station is called -- was established by the government with the express aim of broadcasting hostile information to the citizens of a state which it sought to destroy.

"In the past," says Ahmed El-Himaly, the station's manager, "we always tried to base the tone of our program on an assessment of the Israeli citizen -- his mentality, his thoughts, his points of view and his opinions -- in the light of the state of war between us, as a soldier, not as a person."

Speaking in proficient though not entirely flawless Hebrew, El-Himaly recalled the early days of Kol Kahir, which he has directed for well over 20 years. "From the very beginning, when we started to broadcast a special Hebrew program for the Israeli people, we had objectives that were one hundred percent psychological, dictated by the state of war that prevailed then."

But El-Himaly maintains that even before the peace between Egypt and Israel, the belligerent tone of Kol Kahir did not discourage Israelis from listening. The station's ratings reached a record high during the Yom Kippur War, when, he claims, one and a quarter million listeners kept their ears peeled to the radio for the regular announcements by Kol Kahir naming Israelis taken prisoner in the fighting. Today, El-Himaly speculates, the station enjoys no less than 60,000 regular listeners in Israel.

### Tone Of Programs Moderated

His assessment may be scoffed at by some Israelis, but it derives from a conviction that steps taken by the station back in 1973 to moderate the tone of its programs would inevitably increase the number of its listeners and expand its influence over public opinion.

"Since the outbreak of the October (Yom Kippur) war," says El-Himaly, "we have adopted a very clear line. Following instructions from above... we decided that we must present the facts in their entirety, in order to influence public opinion throughout the world, Israel included. Accordingly, our reports became one hundred percent accurate and we started to speak in a very different tone; beginning in 1973, a dramatic and substantive change took place, not only in the texts of our news broadcasts and commentary, but in the musical programs that were added to them."

"We continued this way until the late President Sadat decided in November 1977 to visit Jerusalem. From the moment that the late President Sadat arrived at Ben Gurion Airport, we received instructions to change our line one hundred and eighty degrees -- instead of war, peace; instead of hatred, friendship."

Today a staff of some 90 Egyptians work at the station, churning out daily five-hour programs that include news in English, French and Russian as well as in Hebrew, commentary, a woman's hour, a program for youth, history lessons on Egyptian civilization and regular lectures by El-Himaly on some aspect of Jewish life in the Arab world in the pre-Islamic and Islamic periods.

"I prepare special material on the ties that have existed between Jews and Arabs in Medina, Mecca and elsewhere," El-Himaly explains, "to show how there has always been a near-complete bond between the two sides -- the Jews and the Arabs ... We enjoyed a genuine peace. So here we have a lesson from the past that we should learn now, as we bear in mind the future."

### Sees No Incongruity

El-Himaly's unbounded optimism about the past and future of Jewish-Arab ties may seem almost anachronistic at a time when relations have soured between Egypt and the Jewish State and when the rest of the Egyptian media is regularly attacking Israel in a manner reminiscent of the Nasser period.

But he sees no incongruity in sounding his orations on the need to cultivate Israel-Egypt friendship amid the freeze in relations imposed by his government and preserved with a persistent chill from his colleagues in the press.

"I never quote from the Egyptian press," he says emphatically. "We have a completely different line ... Those who write for the press here are addressing the Egyptian masses -- intellectuals and the less educated alike -- as well as general Arab public opinion. And you could say their style is extremely biting, anti-Israel. This is clear."

In contrast, says El-Himaly, Kol Kahir avoids singling out individual Israeli officials for criticism or censuring Israel as a state, all the while maintaining "our full right to analyze objectively and comprehensively, the positions taken by Israeli leaders."

Can a man who for nearly 20 years wielded the tongue of his enemy as a psychological weapon of war, feel entirely comfortable using it as a public relations tool for a nominally friendly state, with the declared aim of promoting friendship and understanding?

### A Reality Based On Peace

"Public relations, first of all, is my job," says El-Himaly. "And public relations always expresses the existing reality. In the past the reality was different; it rested on the continuation of the state of war. Today we have another reality, based on peace ... This is the essential difference. In the past I attacked. Today I take an entirely different line."

The turnaround was completed last spring when the Radio and Television Association of Egypt and the Israel Broadcasting Authority concluded a protocol of cooperation, just before the eruption of the war in Lebanon. The lessons in Hebrew, says El-Himaly, are provided by Israel within the framework of the protocol, and the Director-General of Israel Radio has provided musical recordings as well -- "another sign," he says "of the new cooperation between us."

But implementation of the protocol, for all practical purposes, has been frozen, together with the normalization of Egyptian-Israeli relations in other areas. Still, El-Himaly, who has visited Israel a number of times, says he continues to receive occasional musical recordings from the Israeli Embassy in Cairo.