

Vol. XLI - 66th Year

Tuesday, March 8, 1983

No. 46

## ONLY JEWISH MINISTER IN FRANCE DEFEATED IN MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, March 7 (JTA) -- France's only Jewish minister running in yesterday's nation-wide municipal elections, Culture Minister Jack Lang, was heavily defeated in Paris' predominantly Jewish Third District.

Lang, a Socialist, had wooed the Jewish electorate, which seems, according to first poll studies, to have failed him. His competitor, Gaullist Jacques Dominati, known as pro-Israeli, did not specifically seem to court the district's Jewish electorate.

### Israel's Main Friend Faces Run-Off Election

Israel's main friend within the government, Interior Minister Gaston Defferre, failed to win in yesterday's first round and will have to face a second run-off election next Sunday. It is the first time that Defferre, who has served as Marseilles Mayor since the end of the war, is in trouble.

A Socialist, he also counted on the area's Jewish vote and even took time off during the campaign to pay a brief visit to Haifa, Israel, to which his city is twinned. Poll studies say it is too early to determine whether a majority of the city's Jews voted for him in yesterday's election, as they usually do.

Local observers say some Jews failed to support him because for the first time he headed a list which included representatives of the Communist Party.

### How Other Ministers Fared

The government's three other Jewish ministers, Socialists Robert Badinter and Laurent Fabius, and Communist Charles Fitermann, either did not run or did not head a list. Fabius, budget director, was elected municipal councillor in a small city in the north of France.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Claude Cheysson, the man the Jewish community generally blames for what they see as an anti-Israeli turn in France's Middle East policy, was elected in yesterday's first round as Mayor of the small city in which he ran.

Yesterday's electoral results, a major victory for the right and center-right opposition, seriously weakened Francois Mitterrand's Socialist Administration, and many observers believe he will reshuffle his government sometime next month.

## ISRAEL SEEMS TO BE SOFTENING ITS POSITION ON SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS IN SOUTH LEBANON

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 7 (JTA) -- Israel appeared today to have softened its position on security arrangements in south Lebanon. While there has been no official confirmation of such a development, the indications are that Israel might drop its insistence on IDF-manned surveillance posts in the 28-mile deep security zone after the bulk of the Israeli army withdraws from Lebanon, but only if acceptable alternatives are offered.

Some observers here ascribe the new flexibility to the installation of Mashe Arens as Defense Minister, replacing Ariel Sharon. Ministerial policymakers have held several sessions to review the status of negotiations over Lebanon, attended for the first time by Arens.

The Israel-Lebanon-U.S. talks will continue this week, alternating between Netanyahu and Khalde in Lebanon, U.S. special Ambassador Philip Habib is expected back from Washington with new ideas aimed at wrapping up an accord. The main obstacles are security arrangements and a trade agreement between Israel and Lebanon which the Lebanese government opposes at this time.

### Conditions For Foregoing Permanent Outposts

Israel is said to be willing to forego permanent outposts in south Lebanon on condition that the security of the region is maintained by joint IDF-Lebanese patrols, regular surveillance flights by the Israel Air Force, coordination of intelligence and a strong role for Israel's ally, Maj. Saad Haddad in the region.

According to sources here, Israel has yet to receive a satisfactory reply to those conditions from the Lebanese. The latter are speaking of joint "supervision" but Israeli sources insist that is "not the same thing" as joint patrols because supervision denotes something less than a military unit.

Reports from the U.S. indicate that there is no agreement on the role of Haddad. The Lebanese government refuses to allow him to control the south. Habib reportedly conveyed to Israel a proposal that Haddad's Christian militia would be integrated into the Lebanese army and Haddad himself offered a diplomatic assignment abroad. The U.S. favors this.

But Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir has rejected those terms. He told the Cabinet yesterday that he had made it clear to Habib that Israel would not abandon Haddad who it has armed and financed for years.

The United States had made it clear that it would like to see Lebanon build up its own army as a measure of its sovereignty and as a way to protect its population from any hostile forces that might seek to enter the country.

### Issue Of Free Flow Of Goods

The question of the free flow of goods across the Israel-Lebanese border also remains deadlocked. Shamir and David Kimche, head of the Israeli negotiating team, reported to the Cabinet yesterday that the Lebanese are balking because they fear a trade agreement with Israel would harm their trade with Arab countries.

The Lebanese have proposed that the present informal situation continue at the border for the next six months after which the two countries would start negotiations for a formal trade pact.

Shamir rejected this, too, claiming that if Lebanon refused to negotiate while the Israel army occupies part of the country, it is less likely to do so after the army is withdrawn.

The Israelis also profess to be concerned over Syria's intentions. They note that Habib has not been able to arrange a meeting with President Hafez Assad of Syria. Assurances that the Syrian army would pull out of Lebanon when the Israeli army did have come from Lebanese, not Syrian sources, the Israelis point out. They warn that Syrian obduracy could undermine any agreement worked out between Israel, Lebanon and the U.S.

Israeli officials are concerned too that the Soviet Union is seeking to foil an accord. The massive rearmament of Syria with new Soviet ground-to-air missiles may indicate that Moscow is determined to thwart American-sponsored peace moves in the region, the Israeli say.

#### STATE DEPARTMENT REFUSES TO CRITICIZE CARTER FOR MEETING WITH TWO OFFICIALS OF THE PLO

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 7 (JTA) -- The State Department distanced itself today from former President Carter's meeting with two officials of the Palestine Liberation Organization in Egypt, but refused to criticize it.

Department spokesman John Hughes said that Carter, "as a private citizen," can meet with whomever he wants. He said that he does not believe Carter discussed his plans to meet with the PLO officials when he met with Secretary of State George Shultz before departing for the Middle East. But Hughes added that as a "courtesy" Carter probably informed the U.S. Embassy in Cairo that he was planning to meet with the terrorist officials. Hughes added that Carter was not given any "message" from the Reagan Administration to take with him to the Middle East.

The spokesman reaffirmed that "we are not talking to the PLO" until it accepts United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and recognizes the existence of the State of Israel.

#### Carter To Arrive In Israel On Tuesday

Meanwhile, it was announced in Jerusalem that Carter is scheduled to arrive in Israel tomorrow for a week-long visit as the guest of Premier Menachem Begin. He will have meetings with Begin and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir and with leaders of the opposition Labor Alignment, the announcement said.

#### MILTON FIRESTONE DEAD AT 55

KANSAS CITY, March 7 (JTA) -- Milton Firestone, president and editor for 20 years of the Kansas City Jewish Chronicle, died last night of an apparent heart attack. He was 55 years old.

A native of Kansas City, Firestone attended the University of Kansas where he received a Bachelor of Science in economics. He was a Phi Beta Kappa and president of the Jewish Union at the University.

Firestone was a member of the American Jewish Press Association and had served as treasurer and vice president of the AJPA. He had received numerous awards from B'nai B'rith Lodges and Chapters. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the Beth Shalom Congregation of Kansas City and an associate member of the Beth Israel Abraham and Voliner Congregation.

Firestone was a member of the Jewish Community Center here and member and founding parent of the Board of Directors of Kansas City's only Hebrew day school, the Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy.

Jewish community and religious leaders expressed shock at the death of Firestone, a man who they said helped inform and strengthen the Kansas City Jewish community.

#### NEW ZIONIST STUDENT ACTIVIST MOVEMENT FORMED

NEW YORK, March 7 (JTA) -- The Herut Zionists of America reported the formation of Tagar, a new Zionist student activist movement affiliated with the Herut Zionists of America and the Betar Zionist youth movement.

The name of the organization was coined by Zeev Jabotinsky, founder of the Revisionist Zionist movement, which Herut spokesmen said connotes an idealistic attitude "to kindle the flame of a great Jewish national revival" and to "brave all obstacles to Jewish national goals."

The founding conference for Tagar was held at the State University of New York in Albany February 20-21 and was attended by some 200 students from throughout the United States.

#### Four Regional Units Being Established

Hagai Lev, executive director of the Herut Zionists, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that four regional units were being established which would choose delegates to the first national meeting of Tagar. He said that meeting will be held not later than October but that the date and site remained to be determined.

Herut officials said Tagar will seek to unify student groups at colleges and universities in the United States which share its views and objectives, adding that some student groups in Canada have already announced their support of Tagar.

Tagar's central concepts leading to aliyah were described as personal involvement with Israel, volunteering for service in Israel, study of Hebrew and adherence to the teachings of Jabotinsky.

A telegram proclaiming formation of Tagar was sent to Premier Menachem Begin and to leaders of the world Zionist Organization, according to Herut leaders.

#### JLC SAYS IT WON'T PARTICIPATE IN POLISH GOVERNMENT'S SPONSORED WARSAW GHETTO UPRISING CEREMONIES

NEW YORK, March 7 (JTA) -- The Jewish Labor Committee announced today that it would not participate in the commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising which the government of Poland is sponsoring next month.

Donald Slaiman, president of the JLC, said that to permit the commemoration of this event "to be utilized by the Polish government in its desperate effort to gain acceptance from freedom-loving democratic people after its ignominious and tragic efforts to extinguish the brightest flame of freedom which has arisen in Eastern Europe since World War II -- the Solidarity labor movement -- would be unfortunate."

Slaiman noted that the Polish government "has a long history of manipulating the 'Jewish question', playing on domestic anti-Semitism and at the same time wooing world Jewish agencies for its own purposes."

The projected Warsaw Ghetto uprising commemoration "is being used by the government to defend itself

against well-founded Western charges of anti-Semitism," Slatin said. "The hand of American and world Jewish organizations that continually insist that the Soviet Union and its satellites abide by the human rights guarantees incorporated in the Helsinki accords will not be strengthened by a regime that daily flouts these rights."

#### Study On Anti-Semitism in Poland

In line with JLC's opposition to participate in the commemoration, it released a 17-page study of Polish government collaboration and encouragement of anti-Semitism in Poland during the rise and suppression of the Solidarity labor movement. The study, "Anti-Semitism in the Polish Crisis: 1980-1983," states in its forward:

"Anti-Semitism has been exploited during each post-war crisis in Poland (1947, 1956, 1968), and the current crisis precipitated by the rise and suppression of the Solidarity movement is no exception. Both before and after the imposition of martial law, the Polish authorities initiated a vitriolic and xenophobic anti-Semitic campaign.

"To date, the Solidarity labor federation has resisted the temptation to resort to similar anti-Semitic intrigues. During the past year, the Polish government has also abandoned the use of the crudest and most obvious provocations, and has made overtures to Polish and Western Jewry. The anti-Semitic campaign appears to have been muted to enable the regime to improve its image in the West ...."

#### BURG WITHDRAWS AS CANDIDATE FOR THE PRESIDENCY OF ISRAEL

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 7 (JTA) -- Interior Minister Yosef Burg withdrew as a candidate for the Presidency of Israel tonight, despite public support by Premier Menachem Begin. He said on a television interview that he will not run because he insists on broader support than the Knesset may give him when it selects a new President on March 22.

Burg, a veteran leader of the National Religious Party, said he did not want to win by a slender majority which would be the case because the opposition Labor Alignment is pushing its own candidate, Chaim Herzog, a former Ambassador to the United Nations and one time chief of military intelligence.

Some observers suggested that Burg feared he could lose the election which is conducted by secret ballot. But Likud is considered unlikely to support a Labor candidate, inasmuch as outgoing President Yitzhak Navon is a former Labor MK. The deadline for formal nominations is this Friday and the government is expected to ask that it be extended in order to find an alternative to Burg.

Several times have been mentioned, among them Prof. Benjamin Akzin, who is 78, and Prof. Yosef Nedava. Both are scholars long associated with the Zionist Revisionist movement but neither is a well known public figure.

Some of Burg's closest followers in the NRP seemed to be relieved that he dropped out of the race. They fear that without Burg in the party, his Lamifne faction would be eclipsed by the Young Guard faction headed by Education Minister Zevulun Hammer. The Presidency of Israel is largely a symbolic office divorced from party politics.

#### ANTI-SEMITIC CAMPAIGN IN BASEL IS TRACED TO A JEWISH STUDENT

By Tamar Levy

ish medical student arrested in Basel was described by police as the perpetrator of a campaign of virulent anti-Semitic graffiti, harassment and death threats in that city last month.

The disclosure by the police last Friday that Philip Gotchel, son of a prominent Jewish family, was solely responsible for the acts called unprecedented in Switzerland, stunned Jews and non-Jews alike. The Jewish community expressed deep sympathy for the "shame and scandal to his family." Gotchel has been placed under psychiatric care.

The young man, nephew of a leading physician, was said to be an excellent student at the Basel medical school. Most of the anti-Semitic acts were directed against Jewish fellow students, their families and their non-Jewish friends.

Several Jewish students in their third year at the school received anonymous letters last month saying "Death to the Jews," "Hitler was right" and "No more Jewish doctors in Switzerland." Similar slogans were daubed on the walls of local synagogues, the Jewish cemetery and public buildings.

The families of non-Jewish students friendly to Jews received menacing letters and anonymous telephone calls saying "Your son has been killed." Warnings were painted on the university walls advising Jewish students not to attend a faculty party because they would be killed. The campaign aroused serious concern in the city and Swiss army units were sent to help local police protect Jewish students.

Gotchel, at one point, claimed that he had seen rightwing students break into his family's home. In fact, it was he who broke the windows, police said.

#### KACH SETTLEMENT DISMANTLED

JERUSALEM, March 7 (JTA) -- The army today evacuated members of Rabbi Meir Kahane's extremist Kach movement from a settlement they established near Hebron several weeks ago. The settlers left without resistance and the soldiers cordoned off the site prior to demolishing the structures erected on it.

The decision to dismantle the illegal settlement was reportedly taken by Defense Minister Moshe Arens "to maintain law and order and peace and security in the area." Members of the Kach group are suspected of harassing Arabs in the region.

The police reported today that several youths, most of them yeshiva students from Hebron, have confessed to firing shots at an Arab car and an Arab building in Hebron last month. The suspects were detained after the incidents. The police identified most of them as members of Kach from Hebron and other parts of the territory.

#### TV STAR SENDS LOVE TO ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, March 7 (JTA) -- Susan Howard, who plays the part of Donna in the CBS-TV series, Dallas, has sent a message of thanks and love to the people of Israel. In a letter to the Jerusalem Post from her home in Tarzana, Calif., on the first anniversary of the visit to Israel of several members of the Dallas cast, Ms. Howard wrote:

"On the anniversary of the visit of the Dallas team of actors, which was my first visit to Israel, I want to thank the people of Israel for their outpouring warmth and love. Just as I prayed for the peace of Jerusalem before I came -- so I still do today -- I shall never forget my time in your country and the joys of the Holy Land. The Dallas TV series is just a part of my life -- you God is my life -- you are part of that. I love you all."

## NEW YORK STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO EXAMINE TESTIMONY ON KOSHER PRODUCT PRICE FIXING PRACTICES

By Ben Gallob

NEW YORK, March 7 (JTA) -- Assemblyman Sheldon Silver (D. Manhattan) said today, after the first hearing in the history of the New York State Legislature on kosher product pricing practices, that the next step would be to determine whether there are grounds for extending the state's anti-trust laws to apply to such pricing.

Silver, chairman of the Assembly subcommittee on food products, which deals with all aspects of kosher law enforcement in the state, was chairman for the hearing which extended over a 10-hour period last Thursday at the legislative office building here.

The hearing was a joint one of the Assembly and the State Senate. The co-chairperson was Sen. Carol Berman (D. Nassau), the ranking member of the State Senate's Consumer Protection Committee.

Silver said, in advance of the investigative hearing, that "we don't believe that the production costs can account for the great disparity in the price between kosher and non-kosher chickens. With Passover coming up in less than a month, we want to know why kosher poultry prices are so high."

He added that wholesale kosher chicken prices are nearly double the cost of non-kosher chickens, declaring that the price for wholesale kosher poultry was 98 cents a pound and non-kosher poultry sold for 45 cents a pound or less in the area.

### Evidence Of Price Fixing

Silver told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that evidence of a pattern of price-fixing for kosher products, both Passover and year-around, had emerged from the 10-hour hearing and that the testimony was being turned over to the State Attorney General for study and appropriate action. He said a representative of the Attorney General's office had been present during the hearing.

Silver said that Murray Katz, president of Empire Poultry Company, the largest producer of kosher poultry in the United States, had been scheduled to appear as a witness but that he chose not to testify. Sidney Weingarten, Katz's attorney, took the stand when Katz was called to testify and told the hearing that, "on advice of counsel, Mr. Katz will not testify" at the hearing.

Silver said witnesses could not be compelled to testify or penalized for not testifying because the investigation had no power to issue subpoenas.

Harvey Potkin, a former vice president of Falls Chicken Company of Woodridge, New York, who became a vice president of Hebrew National Company when Hebrew National acquired the Woodridge firm, testified that Empire Poultry had settled with the Falls firm an anti-trust suit, claiming restraint of trade in kosher chicken distribution by Empire. Silver said Potkin also testified that Empire paid \$300,000 in an out-of-court settlement with Falls.

Silver said that Katz had come to the hearing to testify but had left the room after listening to Potkin's testimony of restraint of trade charges against Empire. Silver said that when, on the assumption Katz was still present, he had called Katz to the witness stand, Katz' attorney took the stand to announce Katz would not testify.

Silver told the JTA that the Thursday hearing was "the opening gun" of a legislative effort to help protect the consumer of kosher products in the state against price gouging.

## 9 LAWMAKERS URGE REAGAN TO START SPECIAL PROBE OF CHARGES THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT PROTECTED NAZI WAR CRIMINALS AT THE END OF WWII

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 7 (JTA) -- Nine Congressmen have written President Reagan asking him to inaugurate a special investigation of charges that the U.S. government protected Nazi war criminals at the end of World War II.

The letter, drafted by Rep. William Lehman (D. Fla.), came after the recent allegations that U.S. agencies provided protection for former gestapo chief Klaus Barbie, who is facing trial in Lyon, France.

"We need to get to the bottom of this matter," Lehman said. "These are serious allegations that cannot be ignored and the Congress and the American people have a right to know the truth."

### Statement By The Congressman

The letter was co-signed by Reps. Phillip Burton and Don Edwards (both D. Cal.); Dante Fascell (D. Fla.); Hamilton Fish and Bill Green (both R. NY); Samuel Gejdenson (D. Conn.); Stephen Solarz (D. NY) and Sidney Yates (D. Ill.). It asked that the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations carry out the inquiry because of its "unique expertise."

"We believe that our government has an unmistakable moral obligation to investigate the Barbie case in order to set the record straight on any involvement of the executive branch agencies in gaining the cooperation of Nazi war criminals in exchange for admission into the U.S. or for facilitating their entry into other countries," the Congressmen wrote. They urged that "the U.S. must, once and for all, make clear what its position is on Nazi war criminals and their perpetrators."

### ADL To Take Action

Meanwhile, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith announced in New York that it will file a request under the Freedom of Information Act to compel disclosure on charges that American intelligence agencies shielded Barbie and other Nazi war criminals after the war. Nathan Perlmutter, ADL national director, called Barbie "a Nazi skeleton in America's closet."

Abraham Foxman, ADL associate national director, said the ADL wants the American government to "make public information concerning allegations that this country, after World War II, protected Nazi war criminals, including Barbie, with false identities and new names, in return for their cooperation in providing intelligence on Soviet activities in Europe."

The ADL's request for information will be filed with the Central Intelligence Agency, the State Department, Defense Department and the Treasury Department.

\* \* \*

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- The candidacy of Interior Minister Yosef Burg for the Presidency faced the first challenge Monday, as Liberal MKs demanded that in return for their support, the Interior Ministry be handed over to Deputy Premier Simcha Ehrlich.