

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## SHULTZ TELLS ISRAELI LEADERS 'THE TIME TO DECIDE' IS AT HAND

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, April 28 (JTA) -- Secretary of State George Shultz met with Premier Menachem Begin for 90 minutes this morning before flying to Beirut to continue his shuttle diplomacy aimed at achieving an agreement between Israel and Lebanon. He is due back here tonight and will hold further talks with Begin and his senior ministers tomorrow morning.

The American diplomat spent most of yesterday listening to Israel's leaders appraise the situation with respect to the negotiations with Lebanon and their explanation of Israel's position. At a dinner given in his honor by Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir last night, Shultz did not deal in specifics. But in his speech, obviously carefully and pointedly worded, stressed that the time for talk has ended and "the time to decide" is now at hand.

"The negotiation has gone on for four months," Shultz noted. "If the remaining issues had been easy, they would already have been settled. They have been debated, analyzed, pored over, agonized over. Now is the time to resolve them. As the Bible tells us, to everything there is a season ... Now is the time to decide. As in every negotiation, there must be compromise. For every risk that is taken, there is gain. And the risks of failure are far greater than any risks of an agreement as it is now envisaged."

Shultz added: "If we succeed in Lebanon ... we will have enlarged the circle of peaceful relationships between Israel and its neighbors. The peace process continues. It must continue and it must advance." He warned that "To cease our efforts is to allow bitter wounds to fester ... President Reagan is committed to working with you on the noble enterprise of peace-making."

### Focusing On One Issue At A Time

Shultz appeared to be indicating in those remarks that once an accord with Lebanon is achieved, the Administration will want to move ahead briskly with its efforts to revive Reagan's September 1 Middle East peace initiative. But neither the Reagan plan nor the Palestinian issue was raised during the Secretary of State's meetings with Israeli leaders yesterday and this morning. Shultz is concentrating on one issue at a time and an agreement between Israel and Lebanon clearly has top priority on his agenda at present.

The Israelis, for their part, sought to focus American attention on what they regard as the growing menace of the Soviet presence in Syria. Begin pressed that point at his meeting with Shultz last night, attended by Israel's ranking civilian and military policymakers.

Begin insisted that Israel and the U.S. had an urgent and abiding mutual interest in standing up to this "threat." Shultz also expressed concern about the Soviet build-up in Syria. But members of his entourage expressed some surprise at the intensity with which Begin pushed the view that security in the north involved not only local problems along the Lebanese border but the strategic military challenge

posed by Soviet-backed Syrian forces in eastern Lebanon. Begin introduced Shultz to Israel's new chief of military intelligence, Gen. Ehud Barak who told the Secretary that new, Soviet-maned electronic warfare helicopters are flying over Syria; 800 Soviet T-72 tanks have been added to Syria's stock of 3,500 tanks; a Soviet communications facility near Damascus enables direct contact with Moscow; and that Syria is increasing its standing army to 400,000 men by deferring mobilizations and calling up new groups of soldiers.

Government officials promptly supplied that information to the news media which published it immediately after it was submitted to Shultz. American journalists accompanying the Secretary of State pondered the significance of this Israeli ploy.

Some suggested that Begin is looking for political support at home for a withdrawal from Lebanon in order to reduce the risk of war with Syria. Others maintained that Begin is trying to divert American opinion to the issue of a Soviet menace in order to justify a continued Israeli presence in Lebanon.

## FOUR ISRAELI SOLDIERS WOUNDED

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, April 28 (JTA) -- Four Israeli soldiers were wounded this morning south of Sidon when a car exploded next to their vehicle, the army announced. Security forces were said to be searching the area around the incident.

According to Lebanon State Radio in Beirut, there was an "atmosphere of panic" in the Lebanese capital just before U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz arrived there this morning from Jerusalem. The radio said the PLO was rumored to have prepared a score of car bombs in northern Lebanon and was trying to bring them into Beirut where they would disrupt the Shultz visit. Lebanon army and police units set up road blocks throughout the city and were giving all incoming cars a thorough check.

In a separate incident, U.S. marines in Beirut today opened fire on a car which smashed through a barbed wire checkpoint. The car was hit but the two men inside were unhurt. A marine spokesman said one of the men was Lebanese and the other was a Syrian with false Lebanese papers. He said both appeared drunk.

The incident occurred outside the British Embassy, where American officials have been accommodated since last week's bomb blast of the U.S. Embassy.

## ANOTHER MEMBER OF GERMANY'S GREEN PARTY FOUND TO HAVE BEEN A MEMBER OF THE NAZI PARTY

By David Kantor

BONN, April 28 (JTA) -- Pressure is mounting on West Germany's new Green Party to demand the resignation of Gustine Johannsen, a member of the Nazi party from 1939-45, from its governing committee. Another of the Green leaders, Werner Vogel, resigned from the Bundestag several weeks ago after his exposure as a former member of the Nazi SA (Stormtroopers).

Both cases have been a serious embarrassment to the new political party which won 28 seats in the March 6 Bundestag elections. The Green Party is rooted in pacifist and environmentalist movements. It disapproves of West Germany's membership in NATO and wants the U.S. to pull its troops out of Germany. Ironically, those positions are shared by extreme right-wing organizations in the Federal Republic.

Johannsen admitted that she joined the Nazi party but claimed she knew little about it at the time and that she never harmed anyone. She acknowledged that she once led a group of 250 women assigned to support the German war effort by working in a munitions factory.

The governing committee is expected to decide Johannsen's fate this weekend. Party sources say she probably will be forced to resign. One of the Green's founders, August Haussleiter, was forced to resign two years ago -- long before the movement became an active political faction -- after it was learned that he was involved in neo-Nazi groups.

#### RABBI DISAPPOINTED WITH THE POPE

ROME, April 28 (JTA) -- Rabbi Marvin Hier, dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust studies in Los Angeles, has expressed disappointment that Pope John Paul II failed to "address head-on the question of anti-Semitism" during an audience with a 30 member delegation from the Center at the Vatican three days ago.

Hier, who headed the delegation, had stated in his formal address to the Pope, "We come here today to solidify the bonds between people of faith and against the scourge of anti-Semitism and bigotry. We come here today hoping to hear from you ... a clear and unequivocal message to all that this scourge in all its manifestations violates the basic creed to which all men of faith must aspire."

The Polish-born Pope, however, limited his references to the fact that the delegation had just come from Poland where it had participated in observances of the 40th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising. "Paying homage to the memory of these innocent victims, we pray; May the eternal God accept this sacrifice for the well-being and salvation of the world," the Pope said. He called the Nazi destruction of the Warsaw Ghetto a "horrible and tragic event of history."

Hier said at a press conference later that his group would "redouble our efforts" to convince the Pope to condemn modern-day anti-Semitism. He said that at the Papal audience, each member of the delegation received copies of the Pope's recent talk about the Warsaw Ghetto uprising and of a prayer for its victims.

"We are honored that every morning the Pope prays for the victims of the Holocaust but in neither of the statements we were given was there any mention of the future," he said.

#### DULZIN: BOND BETWEEN LATIN AMERICAN JEWRY AND ISRAEL IS AT AN ALL-TIME HIGH

NEW YORK, April 28 (JTA) -- Leon Dulzin, Chairman of the World Zionist Organization and Jewish Agency Executives, said "the bond between Latin American Jewry and Israel on this 35th Anniversary has never been firmer and more meaningful than it is today. I

can assure the world that Latin American Jewry is alive and well and fully supportive of Israel."

Dulzin made a brief stopover on his return to Israel from his guest appearances at Yom Ha'atzmaut celebrations in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Montevideo, Uruguay and Santiago, Chile. He said he addressed more than 20,000 Argentinian Jews who filled Buenos Aires' Luna Park, and thousands more outside who couldn't get in.

"At least half of them were young people," Dulzin said. "This was an unforgettable manifestation of all the Jewish organizations of Buenos Aires and its Zionists who came to salute Israel on her birthday. In all three cities I emphasized Jewish education and aliya which has increased considerably from these nations this year."

In all three cities the Jewish community "turned out en masse in a monumental display that was personally inspiring to witness and to participate in," Dulzin added. "The cheering multitudes, joyously celebrating Israel's 35th birthday, confirmed the fact of the centrality of Israel in their lives. They expressed their absolute commitment to the diaspora-Israeli partnership as the basis for Jewish survival and a personally fulfilling Jewish life both in the diaspora and in our beloved homeland," he emphasized.

"On Yom Ha'atzmaut 1983, Latin American Jewry is determined to achieve a creative Jewish life based upon Jewish knowledge and understanding, a positive Jewish identity and strong personal and communal ties to and identification with Israel."

#### HEINZ: USSR TRYING TO SPIRITUALLY 'ANNIHILATE ALL THAT IS JUDAIC'

PITTSBURGH, April 28 (JTA) -- Sen. John Heinz (R. Pa.) charged today that the Soviet Union is "engaged in an attempt to spiritually annihilate all that is Judaic."

Heinz, addressing the opening session of the 83rd national convention of the Zionist Organization of America, told the 500 delegates assembled to pay tribute to ZOA president Ivan Novick that "Just 40 years after the Nazi attempt to exterminate the Jewish people, as we honor the memory of those who died in the Holocaust, the government of the USSR is heightening its attempt to totally destroy Soviet Jewry."

"If it can be said that Nazi extermination camps were an effort to physically remove the Jewish people from the face of the earth, then the Soviets are engaged in an attempt to spiritually annihilate all that is Judaic," Heinz declared.

"Our commitment to Israel," he said, "rests on our moral determination that history never be allowed to repeat itself. People who have forgotten their history may not wish Israel ill, but neither do they commit themselves clearly to Israel's right to exist. And because precisely so many people today have forgotten the challenge of re-affirming that right, achieving an enduring Middle East peace becomes more and more difficult each day."

#### The Obstacle To Peace

Novick, who also addressed the convention opening, insisted that "It is Arab refusal to accept and recognize Israel which is the obstacle to peace." He urged the U.S. government to convince the Arabs to be realistic if they truly intend to have peace.

According to Novick, "Israel is ready for direct negotiations, the Arabs are not. Israel is branded as inflexible, and the Arabs can sit back and wait for the U.S. to lean on Israel for more concessions. I believe that it is time that the Administration come to grips with the reality that this approach does not address the most vital elements which are the obstacles to peace," Novick said.

"This is the time for the United States to reinforce its relationship with Israel. Let the President send the Arabs a message which says: 'We will make Israel militarily stronger, economically more powerful and concentrate our primary efforts in the area of creating a bridge of friendship and cooperation between Israel, Lebanon and Egypt. And hopefully, at an early date, the King of Jordan will also find the courage to join this union of nations who may not love each other but intend to live with each other.'"

#### JEWISH WOMEN'S GROUPS IN EFFORT TO PREVENT UN WOMEN'S CONFAB IN NAIROBI FROM BECOMING POLITICIZED

WASHINGTON, April 28 (JTA) -- Leaders of 12 major Jewish women's organizations have launched an effort to see to it that the United Nations End Decade Conference on Women, slated to be held in Nairobi, Kenya, in 1985 is not taken over by disruptive elements who would make it a forum for airing Middle East disputes.

Beverly Minkoff, president of the Leadership Conference of National Jewish Women's Organizations under whose umbrella a preliminary planning meeting was held here several days ago, reported that the group met with officials from the White House, the State Department and Congress to discuss the role of the United States in depoliticizing the upcoming UN conference and keeping it geared to improving the situation of women throughout the world.

Nancy Reynolds, special assistant to President Reagan, told the Jewish women leaders that at a recent UN meeting in Vienna the U.S. delegation succeeded in retaining equality, development and peace as themes for the End Decade conference and freeing the agenda from politicized items.

#### Wams Of Continuing Attempts

She acknowledged, however, that attempts will continue to be made by the Russians, Palestinians and others to reintroduce political items into the agenda. At two previous gatherings -- the first UN conference on women in Mexico City in 1975 and the mid-decade conference on women in Copenhagen in 1980 -- repeated resolutions were introduced equating Zionism with racism. Those resolutions were based on the one that was approved by the UN General Assembly in 1975.

Rep. Barbara Mikulski (D., Md.), a member of the Congressional Women's Caucus, told the Jewish women's delegation on their visit to Capitol Hill that the problem in dealing with the UN Conference on Women is that it is a microcosm of the battles that are going on in the UN. She suggested that it is important to see to it that the delegates who are selected "are not naive."

Dorothy Binstock, president of B'nai B'rith Women, which hosted the planning meeting, expressed gratification at the united effort, pointing out that "when we act together representing more than 1,240,000 Jewish women we evoke genuine interest in our concerns."

The organizations that took part were Women's American ORT, B'nai B'rith Women, American Jewish Congress, American Mizrahi Women, Emunah, Hadassah, National Council of Jewish Women, National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, National Ladies Auxiliary of Jewish War Veterans, Pioneer Women/Na-amat, and Women's League for Conservative Judaism.

#### ISRAEL PLACES SECOND IN EUROPEAN SONG CONTEST

JERUSALEM, April 28 (JTA) -- Israel's entry in the annual Eurovision song contest won second place, behind Luxembourg. The audience in Munich, where the contest was held last weekend, was visibly moved and applauded boisterously as Ofra Haza sang "Chai" (Life).

The Israeli song proclaims: "Listen, brother I'm still alive, and my eyes turn to the light/My grandfather dreamt it, my father sang it and today I say it/ Israel is alive, the people of Israel live."

An estimated 500 million viewers here and in 25 other countries watched the proceedings of the song contest that were televised via satellite. Israelis were particularly proud that their country's song won such a high honor and that Haza, the youngest of nine Yemenite children from the poor Hatikva quarter of Tel Aviv, received a rousing ovation. Nineteen other countries were also represented at the contest.

This was the second year that both Turkey and Cyprus cast zero votes for Israel's entries. Most other countries judging the contest awarded "Chai" 6-12 points.

#### B'NAI B'RITH LEADER SAYS SOVIET JEWRY MOVEMENT HASN'T BEEN SILENCED

WASHINGTON, April 28 (JTA) -- The virtual halt to Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union has not silenced the Soviet Jewry movement, Gerald Kraft, president of B'nai B'rith International, told the Annual Leadership Conference of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry.

Instead, he said, the movement has "regained momentum," pointing to the recent World Conference on Soviet Jewry and the B'nai B'rith "Day of Solidarity" as a "turning point in the current history of the Soviet Jewry Movement. If the Kremlin thought three years of heightened repression of Soviet Jews could snuff us out it now knows better."

Kraft made his remarks when he accepted the NCSJ's 1983 Merit Award honoring B'nai B'rith International for its programs on behalf of Soviet Jewry. The award cited B'nai B'rith in particular for sponsoring worldwide demonstrations that coincided with, and underscored, the March 15-17 World Conference on Soviet Jewry in Jerusalem.

The events, which took place in 105 communities in 11 countries, included demonstrations, rallies, prayer vigils and other activities, designed Kraft said, to remind people of the "worsening plight of the Soviet Union's Prisoners of Zion." Thousands of Jews and non-Jews of all ages participated in the programs, he said.

Kraft told the NCSJ that the Soviet Jewry movement has developed strong allies in the form of Western governments and humanitarians "willing to give of themselves to further our cause." And, he said, the media "to the surprise of many" showed a willingness to feature the Soviet Jewry issue.

He said that the Soviet Jewry movement must now maintain and strengthen its alliances, continue to monitor East-West diplomatic contacts with the Soviets and strive to publicize the Soviet Jewry issue as much as possible. The United States, he said, by repeatedly raising the Soviet Jewry issue in all past high-level negotiations with the Kremlin has "kept the issue alive and given our movement clout. There can be no doubt that without America's support we would have had little influence on the USSR."

**SPECIAL TO THE JTA  
MOROCCAN-BORN SEPHARDIC  
PROFESSOR CELEBRATES THE  
FOLK TRADITIONS OF HIS PEOPLE  
By Arnold Ages**

**TORONTO, April 28 (JTA) —** Andre Elbaz, a professor of French at Carleton University in Ottawa, has just written a book celebrating the oral tradition of Sephardic Jews of Moroccan origin living in Canada. In an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Elbaz, who was born in Meknes, indicated that his book, "Tales of the Canadian Sephardim" (Fitzhenry & Whiteside) was written by him in response to an invitation from the Museum of Man in Ottawa.

Elbaz grew up in Morocco, came to maturity in France and there completed his university studies in French literature. "I have been interested in the folk tales of Moroccan Jews ever since I accompanied my father to synagogue as a young boy in Meknes," he said. "I have vivid recollections of the stories of imagination and wonder that were spun by Jewish men and women."

Elbaz jumped at the opportunity to compile an anthology of Sephardic folk tales when he was approached by Canada's Museum of Man. "That institution has been compiling folk tales of all kinds of Canadian ethnic groups such as the Inuit (Esquima group) and I thought that the Moroccan Jews in Canada deserved recognition as well."

The Carleton professor, who has written extensively on French-Jewish themes, explained that after the dissolution of the Moroccan Jewish community (in the wake of Israel's birth and subsequent Arab pressures) most of the members emigrated to Israel. The second largest group of Moroccan Jews settled in France.

The smallest segment, about 15,000 made its way to Canada. There the French-speaking Sephardim found a congenial foyer in Montreal, Quebec City and two other centers, Ottawa and Toronto.

Survey Involved A Double Task

Elbaz, in executing his survey of Moroccan folk tales was involved in a double task -- an audit of an important literary tradition, and, a return to his own roots. The book, which resulted from his research, was written in French but it is the English translation with a stunning series of illustrations that has appeared first.

In his conversation with this correspondent, Elbaz pointed out that the Moroccan Sephardim who came to Canada were under no danger of physical violence in Morocco when they arrived here in the 1960s and 1970s.

"The reason why a substantial number of Moroccan Jews came to Canada is because of two reasons. First, the Canadian Jewish Congress was able to obtain a preferred immigration status for them," he said.

"Secondly, Moroccan Jews who came to Canada were highly literate in French and since many of them had been associated with the Alliance Israelite Universelle, they were excellent teachers. They were naturally attracted to Franco-phone Montreal and became quickly accepted in that city as teachers. An irony: one of the heads of the Protestant School Board of Montreal was a Moroccan Jew."

Elbaz has no illusions about what life was like for Jews in Morocco. "Unlike the Jews of Iraq who were closely integrated within the Arab population, we Moroccan Jews lived in a separate environment cut off from the Arab population. Our culture was French and we tended to look down upon Arab society. In a sense we lived in a Jewish state-within-a-state."

That being the case, Elbaz was asked why it was that so many of the stories in his book reflect the imprint of Berber-Arab culture. Elbaz wrote in the introduction to his work that the "jinn" -- malevolent Moslem spirits -- animate many of the stories told by Moroccan Jews.

Says Elbaz: "It is true that we Moroccan Jews lived in an environment that was totally Jewish. But that does not mean that we were sealed off hermetically from the Arabs. We had daily contact with them. We spoke their language. We interacted with them commercially if not socially. Our women went to the 'suk' (the market) and encountered the Moroccan Arabs. As a result of all these contacts much of the Moslem folk traditions became assimilated into the Moroccan Jewish consciousness."

Elbaz discovered this during the many taping sessions he conducted with Sephardic men and women from Morocco during research jaunts to major Canadian cities. In transcribing his data, Elbaz used four languages: French, Spanish, Arabic and Judaeo-Arabic.

Prominent Role Of Women

In the folk tales which he has assembled (only 80 of some 300 made it into his book), Elbaz pointed out that those told by Jewish men are different from those recounted by Jewish women:

"The reason that women are so prominently represented is because their circumstances made them storytellers. Like many of their Ashkenazic counterparts, the Moroccan Sephardic women were illiterate. Since folklore is part of oral history it was natural for them to become involved in collecting and transmitting these materials."

"As I went about my task of recording the folk traditions among my Canadian Sephardic respondents I had fascinating and enlightening experiences. The elderly people were the most exciting; they would come alive as they opened up to me with stories and autobiographical details of their lives in Morocco."

"One of the interesting differences I noted between women's stories and men's is that the former often reflected secular influences while the latter mirrored more pious preoccupations. The reason is simple; men went to the synagogue. There they studied and read from the Torah, Midrash and Talmud. The women, on the other hand, stayed home or mingled with the Moslem population, acquiring from that contact stories of a more secular bent."

Elbaz indicated that the tales of the Moroccan Sephardim which he has collected in Canada show a spirit of triumphalism that was not always in accord with the actual conditions of life for Jews in Morocco. The fictional rendering of Jewish successes via the tales was a natural sublimation to be found among a population often victimized and persecuted by its Arab hosts.

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**NEW YORK (JTA) —** Stratford College, the Jewish secondary school of Dublin, which was destroyed by arson in 1980, was recently rededicated by the Chief Rabbi of Ireland, David Rosen, at a ceremony last month. Among the school's modern facilities is a computer department, established through the assistance of British ORT. This was announced by Beverly Minkoff, president of Women's American ORT.