

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## SOVIET ANTI-ZIONIST COMMITTEE TO SET UP BRANCHES THROUGHOUT USSR

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, July 5 (JTA) -- The recently established Anti-Zionist Committee of the Soviet Public will open branches in major cities throughout the USSR in addition to Moscow where it is headquartered, the Soviet Communist Party newspaper Pravda reported today.

Pravda said the committee, chaired by Gen. David Dragunsky, the highest ranking Jewish officer in the Red Army, will operate "regional and provincial offices" and organize activities "in certain cities to fight the spread of Zionist propaganda."

Pravda sharply attacked Israel and "world Zionism," charging that they "used methods similar to those of the Nazis." The Communist Party organ accused Israel of "operating concentration camps in which Arabs, Palestinians and Lebanese are held as the Nazis used to do."

Jewish circles here fear that the Anti-Zionist Committee might try to spread its activities to other Soviet bloc countries. Such a move, they said, would endanger existing contacts and cooperation between the Jewish communities in countries such as Hungary and Czechoslovakia with Jewish organizations abroad.

## ROCKET FIRED AT ISRAEL FROM FORMER PLO STRONGHOLD

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, July 5 (JTA) -- A Katyusha rocket was fired from the Beaufort Castle area in south Lebanon today, apparently aimed at Israel, but it fell short of its mark. A military spokesman said the rocket exploded near the Lebanese border village of Klea without causing casualties or damage.

The Beaufort Castle, the ruins of a Crusaders' stronghold, had been one of the Palestine Liberation Organization's principal bases in south Lebanon until it was captured by Israeli forces in the early stages of the war in Lebanon last summer.

## GEMAYEL OPPOSED TO PARTIAL ISRAELI PULLBACK WITHOUT TIMETABLE FOR FULL WITHDRAWAL FROM LEBANON

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, July 5 (JTA) -- Lebanon Radio, monitored here, said today that President Amin Gemayel and Foreign Minister Elie Salem warned Secretary of State George Shultz that Lebanon "cannot accept a unilateral Israeli withdrawal to the south unless it is accompanied by a timetable for a definite withdrawal of all Israeli troops" from Lebanon.

Shultz met with Gemayel and Salem in Beirut this morning before going on to Damascus for a meeting with President Hafez Assad of Syria, apparently to try to clarify Syria's intentions regarding its own forces still in Lebanon. (See separate story.) The Secretary of State, homework bound after visiting several Far Eastern countries and Pakistan, diverted unexpectedly to the Middle East. He was in Saudi Arabia yesterday and is due in Israel tomorrow.

According to Lebanon Radio, Gemayel also warned Shultz that should Israel proceed with plans for a partial withdrawal without submitting a timetable for complete withdrawal, "Lebanon will feel free to

reconsider its May 17 agreement with Israel." The radio report hinted that Gemayel might in those circumstances break the agreement.

## ADMINISTRATION REITERATES U.S. SEEKS WITHDRAWAL OF ALL FOREIGN FORCES FROM LEBANON, 'AS SOON AS POSSIBLE'

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, July 5 (JTA) -- The Reagan Administration reiterated today that it was committed to the "concurrent withdrawal" of Israeli and Syrian troops and Palestine Liberation Organization terrorists from Lebanon.

"United States policy is that there should be, as soon as possible, a total and concurrent withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon," State Department deputy spokesman Alan Romberg said.

His comments were made as Secretary of State George Shultz arrived in Damascus in an attempt to convince Syrian President Hafez Assad to withdraw his troops from Lebanon and, along with them, the PLO forces there. Shultz was accompanied by U.S. special envoys Morris Draper and Richard Fairbanks. Special Ambassador Philip Habib remained in Beirut.

Reports from the Mideast today are that Shultz was not bringing the Syrians any inducements to leave Lebanon. Romberg seemed to concur in that assessment. "Our objectives remain as the Secretary described them on June 29 -- withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon, and security for Israel's northern border," Romberg said. "As the Secretary has made clear, these objectives are served by the Lebanese-Israeli agreement which we fully stand behind."

## Just Passing Through

The spokesman had no explanation as to why Shultz decided to go to the Middle East at the end of his trip to Asia when he had previously ruled out stopping there on his way home. All Romberg would say is that "the Secretary is passing through the area to make brief stops during which he will have the opportunity to talk with the leaders of these countries, and to assess their views and convey ours in regard to how to achieve our common objectives in Lebanon."

Shultz visited Saudi Arabia and Lebanon before going to Syria today. He will go next to Israel before returning to Washington, probably late Thursday night.

Shultz's visit came after Syria rejected visits by Habib and Draper in the wake of Damascus' denunciation of the Israeli-Lebanese agreement.

Romberg would not say whether Shultz had been invited to Damascus by the Syrians or whether he had requested to be allowed to stop there. However, Romberg did note the visit was "coordinated" between the two countries. Reportedly, Pakistan, which was Shultz's last scheduled stop, may have had a role in arranging his visit to Syria.

The State Department continued today to have no comment on the reported proposal by Habib to the Israelis that they agree to a timetable for withdrawal as a means of convincing the Syrians that the Israeli troops will leave Lebanon. When Romberg was asked

about this proposal, he would only repeat his statement that the United States continues to support a "concurrent withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon."

#### ISRAELI HOSPITALS AGAIN IN TROUBLE AS NON-MEDICAL PERSONNEL WALK OUT

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, July 5 (JTA) -- Government hospitals, still not fully recovered from the four month-long doctors strike that ended last week, were hit by a work stoppage by administrative and technical personnel today. Public health services were also affected by the walk-out.

The stoppage was called as a one-day demonstration but hospital sources said it might continue tomorrow. The strikers are demanding implementation of recommendations made by a government commission more than 10 years ago to equalize their wages and fringe benefits with employees of Kupat Holim, the Histadrut sick fund. Histadrut hospitals and clinics were not involved in today's action.

A labor court, which yesterday rejected a government application for an injunction to ban or postpone the walk-out, ordered the strikers to prepare the necessities for patient care before they left their jobs. Accordingly, food was cooked in advance to be served to patients by doctors and nurses. This was not done however at the Sheba Hospital in Tel Hashomer, one of the largest government hospitals.

At about 30 hospitals the reception of patients was halted in the absence of clerical staff who joined the walkout of kitchen and laundry workers, cleaners and porters. Surgery was postponed because no one was available to scrub the operating rooms. Patient care was further marred by the walkout yesterday of 900 X-Ray technicians who are demanding shorter hours and better protection from radiation.

#### Arbitration Agreement Signed

Today's strike closed the central bureau of the Health Ministry in Jerusalem and district health offices. Routine inspections of water supply and other health services were suspended.

Meanwhile, representatives of the Israel Medical Association and the Finance Ministry met today at the Attorney General's office to sign the agreement for binding arbitration which ended the doctors strike. A neutral arbitrator must be nominated within 48 hours of the signing.

#### HOLLAND MAY RECONSIDER WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS FROM UNIFIL

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, July 5 (JTA) -- Dutch Foreign Minister Hans Van der Broek said here today that his government might be willing to reconsider its decision to withdraw its troops from the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon by October 19 if by then a new and useful role was available for the troops and if the Lebanese situation was improved.

Van der Broek was responding to Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir's suggestion that UNIFIL contingents might be able to play a role, alongside multinational force units, in aiding the Lebanese army to take over and control areas of the country that Israeli and Syrian forces vacate.

The two Foreign Ministers met for four hours today. Van der Broek will meet with Premier Men-

achem Begin tomorrow morning. Israeli officials stressed the warm and friendly atmosphere at the talks despite differences that surfaced especially over the Palestinian issue and Israeli West Bank settlements. The officials said both ministers had felt the talks went "excellently."

#### PREPARATIONS BEGIN FOR UN PALESTINE CONFERENCE

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, July 5 (JTA) -- The European regional meeting which opened here yesterday to prepare for the United Nations sponsored conference on Palestine, ran into an embarrassing problem today. It was unable to find a chairman from what the organizers consider a "respectable" country, meaning an at least moderately important European state.

Both Austria and Yugoslavia declined but the latter agreed to provide one of three vice chairmen. The others were from Czechoslovakia and Malta. Delegates from most Western European countries have failed to show up. Participants at the preparatory meeting are Finland, Sweden, Greece, Portugal, Austria, Malta, Spain, Turkey and Cyprus.

The conference, to be held here August 16-24, has been ill-starred from the outset. Originally scheduled for Paris, the French government refused to play host, as did the Austrian government. The Swiss agreed to have the gathering at Geneva, but only reluctantly. The official objections by all three governments was the severe security burden the conference would impose and the possibility that it would attract terrorist elements.

Nevertheless, preparations are continuing. The UN sent a special press officer from its headquarters in New York to help the local staff. He is Mahmoud el Said, an Egyptian. Meanwhile, an exhibition of photographs from Arab refugee camps has been put on display in the corridors of the Palais Des Nations. The photographer is a Swiss, Jean Mhor.

#### FRENCH POLICE CERTAIN ABU NIDAL GANG BEHIND ATTACKS ON EUROPEAN JEWS

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, July 5 (JTA) -- French police are convinced that the extremist terrorist gang headed by Abu Nidal was responsible for the series of attacks on Jewish targets in Western Europe during the summer of 1982 as well as the murder of Issam Sartawi, a Palestine Liberation Organization moderate who was gunned down in Lisbon last April 10.

The police reached that conclusion after an investigating magistrate and the chief inspector of the Paris police visited Al Awat Youssef, the prime suspect in the Sartawi killing who is being held in Lisbon. He is an admitted member of the Nidal gang.

Youssef's forged Moroccan passport showed that he was in France from July 25-August 10, 1982. On August 9, a terrorist gang launched a grenade attack on the Jo Goldenberg restaurant on the Rue Des Rosiers in the old Jewish quarter of Paris, killing six persons and wounding 22.

Youssef is also a suspect in the terrorist assault on the main synagogue in Rome on October 9, 1982 in which a child was killed and several people wounded. Earlier, the Abu Nidal gang, a breakaway faction of the PLO, was linked to the attempted assassination of Shlomo Argov, Israel's Ambassador to London, in June, 1982. Abu Nidal has declared war on Israelis, European Jews and Palestinian moderates.

# HERZOG AFFIRMS RIGHT OF DIASPORA JEWS TO CRITICIZE ISRAEL BUT INSISTS THEY DO IT AMONG THEMSELVES

By Cindy Kaye

JERUSALEM, July 5 (JTA) -- President Chaim Herzog told an audience of overseas Jewish leaders here last night that they "always have and continue to have a right to express an opinion about what is happening in Israel and about Israeli policy."

But, in his address to the closing session of the 22nd International Conference of the World Union for Progressive Judaism, Herzog qualified that right by asserting that criticism of Israel should not be aired in public, but rather discussed within the confines of Jewish circles. He stressed further that "While advice and criticism should be open and be regarded as legitimate, it must be given under the prior understanding that the final decision rests with those who have to bear the consequences of any policy or political or military decision," meaning Israelis.

Herzog's position on an issue which developed into a major theme during the week-long conference, seemed to fall somewhere between a declaration by the delegates asserting "the right of diaspora Jews to exercise a vigorous involvement in issues which concern their fellow Jews living in the Jewish State" and the blunt statement by Energy Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, in his address to the gathering last week, that diaspora Jews "have no right to get involved in political debates concerning Israel's security."

Mordechai delivered that injunction a few evenings after Rabbi Richard Hirsch, executive director of the World Union, spoke out forcefully "in support of the right of diaspora Jewry to have a say in Israel's domestic and foreign policies." Hirsch referred specifically to the controversy over Israeli settlement policies on the West Bank and their consequences. The delegates appeared upset by Mordechai's comments.

## Effects Of Non-Jewish Environment

President Herzog intimated in his speech that the way for diaspora Jews to widen the scope of their influence over affairs in Israel is to cease being diaspora Jews and settle here. He recalled that then Premier David Ben Gurion "said 35 years ago that there was nothing to prevent you from increasing your constituency by immigrating from abroad which would give you a stronger and perhaps more decisive voice within the framework of the difficult debate in this country and could thus influence the developments in Israel in the direction desirable to you."

Nevertheless, Herzog observed, "Your non-Jewish environment has decided, whether you like it or not, and many probably don't like it, to identify you with Israel, for good or for bad. As a result of that, Israel cannot dare ignore the effects of our policy and actions on world Jewry. This leads me to the conclusion that you always have and continue to have a right to express an opinion about what is happening in Israel and about Israeli policy."

## FRENCH EDITOR FINED FOR LETTER THREATENING EUROPEAN JEWS

PARIS, July 5 (JTA) -- Serge July, editor of the leftwing daily Liberation, was found guilty of "incitement to racial hatred" by a French court yesterday for publishing a letter last summer threatening violent retaliation against Jews who support Israel.

The panel of three judges fined July 5,000 Francs (\$700) on grounds that an editor "should exert a proper control" over what is published in the form of letters from readers. July and his paper, which is known for its anti-racist and humanitarian positions, were sued by the International League Against Anti-Semitism and Racism (LICRA).

The letter came from an Arab resident of France who wrote that in retaliation for Israel's bombing of Beirut, Arabs would launch terrorist attacks in Europe not only against Israeli targets but against all Jews who support Israel. The court held that the letter was "an open appeal to murder which became a real threat because of a tense and explosive situation." The terrorist attack on the Jo Goldenberg restaurant on the Rue Des Rosiers in the old Jewish quarter of Paris occurred nine days after the letter appeared in Liberation. The grenade assault killed six and wounded 22 people.

LICRA issued a communique yesterday welcoming the court's decision as "a step forward" in the fight against racism and anti-Semitism. Some LICRA members and members of other Jewish organizations hold the view that "leftwing anti-Semitism" is a greater threat to West European Jews than the extreme rightwing or neo-fascists.

## RED CROSS DENIES CLAIM BY TERRORIST GANG HOLDING TWO ISRAELI POWS

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, July 5 (JTA) -- A spokesman for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) branded as false the claim by a Palestinian terrorist group that the Red Cross was in effect indolent in seeking permission to visit two Israeli soldiers held prisoner by the group in Lebanon.

One of the prisoners, Yosi Groff, told a wire service reporter last week that a Red Cross representative had visited them only once, last May.

Tachsin el Shabli, a member of the extremist terrorist group headed by Ahmed Jibril, who was present at the interview, said visits were permitted every two months but that the Red Cross had asked only once to be allowed to see the Israeli prisoners. This was reported in the Israeli press.

The ICRC spokesman told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, "We have constantly been trying to get permission to visit the two Israeli POWs held by the Ahmed Jibril group and we continue our efforts constantly. What the man said is just not true."

The spokesman added that the Red Cross was not pleased that the Jibril group makes announcements through the press without contacting the ICRC as is the custom. He said that while media reporters are allowed to visit the prisoners, that right is denied the ICRC.

## ANATOLY SAYS HE'S FEELING BETTER

NEW YORK, July 5 (JTA) -- Anatoly Shcharansky has informed his family that his health is somewhat better and that he is looking forward to a visit from his brother which was cancelled in June but is now re-scheduled for this week, the National Conference on Soviet Jewry reported today. Letters to that effect were received by Shcharansky's mother, Ida Milgram and his brother, Leonid Shcharansky, the NCSJ said.

The Jewish dissident, confined to Chistopol prison, was reported in poor health last month from the effects of drugs administered by prison doctors after he complained of chest pains.

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TEL AVIV (JTA) -- Nobody loves a vulture. But the Ramat Gan Zoo is celebrating the hatching of its first vulture in captivity, an exceedingly rare occurrence.

# SON OF REFUSENIKS CITES PARENTS' PLIGHT TO REFUTE CLAIM BY SOVIET ANTI-ZIONIST COMMITTEE

By Rifka Rosenwein

NEW YORK, July 5 (JTA) -- The claim by the Soviet government-sponsored Anti-Zionist Committee that all Jews who wanted to leave the USSR have done so "is just a lie," it was stressed here by a former Moscow Jew, who now lives in Israel.

"I am here and my parents are there (in the Soviet Union)," Igor Tufeld, a 25-year-old Moscow native, said in an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. Tufeld is in the United States, under the auspices of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, to seek help in getting his parents out of the USSR and to urge the American public, "especially American Jews, to intensify their efforts" on behalf of Soviet Jewry.

The extra push is needed now in response to drastic cuts in Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union and to the recent formation of the Soviets' official Anti-Zionist Committee, Tufeld said. "It is important to let the Soviet authorities know that the Soviet Jews are not forgotten."

## Health Care Impaired

Tufeld's parents, Vladimir and Izolda, first applied for exit visas in 1977 and were refused on the grounds that they know state secrets. Vladimir Tufeld worked as an engineer in a Moscow factory where he had a security clearance.

The elder Tufelds are both in poor health, and their medical care has been impaired by repeated interference by the Soviet authorities, according to their son. Most recently, he said, he had to appeal to members of the International Conference of Neurosurgeons held in Munich last year to convince the Soviet representative to operate on his mother, who had been suffering from a brain tumor.

Previous appeals, including letters sent to the Soviet government by 40 U.S. Congressmen, various leading surgeons, and the Governor of Colorado, to allow Mrs. Tufeld to come to the U.S. for surgery or have an American doctor fly to Russia, proved unsuccessful, Tufeld said.

Tufeld himself, who was beaten up outside the Moscow synagogue during the 1973 Yom Kippur War, applied for an exit visa in 1976, at the age of 19. When refused because he had no relatives in Israel, he took part in the October, 1976 Supreme Soviet demonstration, and was imprisoned for 15 days along with Anatoly Shcharansky and other prominent Jewish dissidents.

Tufeld said that since the formation of the Anti-Zionist Committee, the mood among the refuseniks was "very depressed," according to a telephone conversation he had ten days ago with his parents. The committee was formed, he said, partly in response to the Third International Conference on Soviet Jewry held in Jerusalem last March, which condemned the repression of Jewish culture and the severe cuts in Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union.

He noted that the Soviet response was similar in 1971, after the first such conference in Brussels. Then "they gathered the top 15 Jews in front of foreign journalists to say that everything (is fine) for Soviet Jews," Tufeld said.

The most outspoken members of the Anti-Zionist Committee are also prominent Jews, according to Tufeld. Its leader, General David Dragunsky, is a

former member of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party and a recipient of the "Hero of the Soviet Union" award, one of the highest designations in the country. The Committee is again "trying to show that there are no problems in the Soviet Union for Jews," Tufeld said.

## Show-Casing Jews

In what Tufeld saw as a related move, the Soviets are sending a "multi-ethnic" group of popular Soviet performers to the United States next month. Most of the people who will be attracted to the performance will be Russian-speaking, and most of those are Jews, said a NCSJ spokesman who was present at the interview.

The group is "trying to portray that the Soviet Union treats all ethnic groups well and that they can work together harmoniously," the spokesman said. One of the actors is "not so good, but he's Jewish," according to Tufeld.

"The Soviet Union can use this as a propaganda device; people who left the Soviet Union are now flocking to see" the group, the spokesman said. This and the Anti-Zionist Committee represent an "attempt to show-case Jews, place them in prominent public roles, give the impression that there is no persecution of Jews in the Soviet Union," she said.

"Igor's very presence in the United States to testify before Congressional committees and to speak around the nation represents an immediate response" to the recent Soviet actions, she added. While in the U.S., Tufeld testified before the House Sub-Committee on Human Rights and the Helsinki Commission, which monitors the Helsinki Accords. He also met with seven Congressmen who are soon leaving for an official trip to the Soviet Union.

## WEST GERMAN STATE SUBSIDIZING JEWISH COMMUNITY FOR RELIGIOUS AND OTHER NEEDS

By David Kantor

BONN, July 5 (JTA) -- The federal state of Lower Saxony will make available 240,000 Marks annually for the Jewish community there. According to an accord with the community, the money will be used to promote religious needs as well as the cultural ties with the surrounding Christian communities.

As of 1960, State funds have been made available for the Jewish community of Lower Saxony. The yearly sum was 50,000 Marks until 1972 and 140,000 Marks, thereafter.

The Minister for Cultural Affairs, George-Bemdt Osiatz, said in Hannover that it goes without saying that the State supports the Jewish community. This was, he added, a "moral commitment toward our Jewish fellow citizens." Most funds for the Jewish community in West Germany come from a religious tax collected by the State. The same applies to all other recognized religious communities in the country. The religious tax amounts to 10 percent of the income tax.

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MEXICO CITY (JTA) -- The centenary of the birth of Franz Kafka, the Czech-Jewish writer, will be marked here under the official patronage of the Mexican Institute of Fine Arts this month. Two public celebrations will be held with the participation of Mexican writers and intellectuals. A bust of Kafka will be unveiled at the library of Mexico's National University.