

JTA daily news bulletin

Contents copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement.

Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency / 165 West 46th Street / New York, New York 10036

Vol. LXI - 66th Year

Monday, August 8, 1983

No. 150

SHULTZ: U.S. OPPOSES SETTLEMENTS ON THE WEST BANK BUT JEWS WHO LIVE THERE NOW HAVE THE 'RIGHT' TO REMAIN

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- Secretary of State George Shultz reiterated today United States opposition to new Israeli settlements being built on the West Bank, but stressed that the Jews who live there now have the "right" to remain in Judaea and Samaria.

"I think that the principle that Jews have the right to live on the West Bank to the Israelis is an important principle and I agree," he said in an appearance on NBC-TV's "Meet the Press."

Shultz's comment was made in response to a question about the State Department statement last week that it would be "impractical" to dismantle the settlements now there. The statement followed the U.S. veto of an Arab-sponsored resolution in the United Nations Security Council calling for the international community not to provide Israel any assistance that could be used for the settlements.

In explaining the veto, the U.S. Ambassador, Charles Lichenstein, said it would be neither "practical or even appropriate to call for the dismantling of the existing settlements" as the resolution urged.

Position Consistent With U.S. Initiative

Shultz said today that the U.S. position was "perfectly consistent" with what President Reagan said in his September 1 peace initiative. "Insofar as the settlements on the West Bank are concerned one could foresee them staying right where they are, but the residents of those settlements would live under the legal jurisdiction of whatever legal jurisdiction resulted from the negotiations," the Secretary said.

"That is distinct from what happened in the Sinai," Shultz added. In the Sinai all Jewish settlements were dismantled as part of the Egyptian-Israeli peace agreement after Egypt adamantly refused to allow any of the settlements to remain in the area it would control.

But as for new settlements, Shultz stressed the U.S. has "stressed consistently" that "the new settlements on the West Bank are not constructive, they don't help us at all in our search for peace in that region."

BLAST DAMAGES S. AFRICAN SYNAGOGUE

JOHANNESBURG, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- A powerful explosion ripped through the Temple Israel synagogue early yesterday. No one was in it when the explosion occurred, just hours before President Marais Viljoen was scheduled to attend ceremonies to mark the 50th anniversary of Reform Judaism in South Africa.

Viljoen was to have attended the ceremonies along with the Israeli Ambassador, the Mayor of Johannesburg and the administrator of Transvaal Province. The service was held at another synagogue.

Police launched an investigation of the incident, but Col. Frank Bull of the Johannesburg police said it could not be immediately determined "if there was a bomb, either inside or outside the building."

SHAMIR-CEAUSESCU TALKS SCHEDULED

JERUSALEM, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir will visit Rumania next month where

he is scheduled to hold several meetings with President Nicolae Ceausescu. Shamir was invited by Rumania's Foreign Minister. The talks are expected to focus on ways to advance the Middle East peace process. The Presidents of Lebanon and Syria have also been invited to visit Rumania in the near future.

WEEKEND OF VIOLENCE IN LEBANON

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- Lebanon was wracked by violence over the weekend in which 55 people were killed and 118 were wounded. The worst incident was in the ancient town of Baalbek in east Lebanon where at least 35 people were killed and 65 were wounded when a car packed with explosives went off in the town's central market. Local sources said the toll might be higher as police continued to search the ruins of nearby houses.

In Tripoli, a car bomb exploded outside a mosque, killing 19 people and wounding 43. In Beirut, a young girl was killed and nine were wounded when a bomb exploded outside an apartment complex in the Christian area of the city.

An Israeli soldier was wounded in an ambush yesterday as he and another soldier were standing by the roadside near the Zaharani River some eight miles south of the Awali River where the Israel Defense Force is being redeployed. Two bazooka shells were fired at an Israeli army position near Shouafat south of Beirut today. There were no casualties, the army spokesman said.

An Israeli soldier who was wounded two months ago when he was shot in an ambush near Bahamdoun died of his injuries today. His death brought the number of Israeli soldiers killed since the war in Lebanon was launched in June, 1982, to 506, the army spokesman said.

Meanwhile, the army spokesman said he had no information about a Beirut newspaper report that Israel had captured two Syrian tanks and their crew when the tanks apparently lost their way in the Bekaa valley last Friday and passed into an Israeli-controlled area. Lebanese sources said the tanks were surrounded by Israeli troops and were forced to drive to a nearby IDF base, without a clash.

DEMONSTRATORS DEMAND THAT ISRAEL WITHDRAW FROM LEBANON BEFORE WINTER

JERUSALEM, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- Dozens of reserve soldiers and members of a group called "Parents Against Silence" demonstrated today outside the Premier's office here to protest against the continued Israeli Defense Force presence in Lebanon and demanding that it withdraw from that country before winter.

The demonstration took place as reports came in from Lebanon that an Israeli army position near Shouafat south of Beirut came under fire today and that an Israeli soldier was wounded yesterday in an ambush near the Zaharani River some eight miles south of the Awali River.

ARIDOR DEMANDS BUDGET CUTS OF 55 BILLION SHEKELS, INCLUDING 20 BILLION FROM DEFENSE BUDGET

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- Budget cuts amounting to 55 billion Shekels, including a cut of 20 bil-

lion Shekels from the defense budget, was the main item on today's Cabinet agenda. The reductions were demanded by Finance Minister Yoram Aridor. The cuts, which were not immediately acted on, amount to a five percent reduction in all state expenditures.

Aridor's demand for the hefty cut in the defense budget was supported by other ministers with the exception of Defense Minister Moshe Arens who was willing to go along with only a four billion Shekel reduction.

Aridor also proposed to revive the 0.3 percent surcharge on all bank withdrawals. This proposal had been defeated several months ago. The Finance Minister's third proposal was to cut national insurance old age pensions. Welfare Minister Aharon Uzan agreed to consider this, but rejected another proposal to tax allowances on children.

Energy Minister Yitzhak Moda'i, a vocal critic of Aridor's economic policy, announced before the Cabinet meeting that he was going to present his own economic program, the crux of which, he said, was to make the public pay for all services and to chop subsidies to a minimum. Other ministers went into the meeting calling for an economic emergency plan.

The Treasury warned today that the Cabinet's failure to act on revising the country's economic policy by the end of the week would mean that it would have to wait another two months to do so. Aridor is going to Washington next week and the High Holy Days begin on the eve of September 7.

ABU-HATZEIRA SENTENCED TO THREE MONTHS IN PRISON By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- The Supreme Court today sentenced the former Minister of Labor, Social Welfare and Absorption, Aharon Abu-Hatzeira, to three months in prison. This was a more severe sentence than the Tel Aviv district court handed down in April, 1982. The court convicted him on charges of fraud, theft and breach of public trust but suspended a four-and-a-half month jail term. The Supreme Court held that the lower court had been too lenient.

The charges against Abu-Hatzeira stemmed from his administration of a State-supported charitable fund established in the name of his late father, former Chief Rabbi of Morocco Yitzhak Abu-Hatzeira, when he was the Mayor of Ramle in 1976. The Supreme Court justices denounced Abu-Hatzeira's practice of transferring funds, while he was Welfare Minister, to public institutions.

After his conviction by the Tel Aviv district court, Abu-Hatzeira said he would not resign from his Knesset seat, as the head of the Tami faction which he formed in 1981 after defecting from the National Religious Party, pending the outcome of his appeal to the Supreme Court against his conviction.

By law, the Knesset cannot force him to give up his seat but the Knesset House Committee could suspend him for the period during which he serves his sentence. At the request of his defense attorney, Shlomo Tussiah-Cohen, implementation of the prison term will not begin until October 2. The Tami secretariat and executive are scheduled to meet tomorrow to discuss the verdict.

After the Supreme Court handed down the jail sentence, police closed off the area around the court building. Members of Abu-Hatzeira's family expressed their displeasure at the verdict and denounced the media. Tussiah-Cohen expressed sur-

prise at the ruling. The former minister said he was not "shaken" by the decision. Tami leaders held a meeting here and made two decisions; one, to rally behind Abu-Hatzeira as the party chairman, pledging to have him lead the movement for the municipal elections three months away; and two, that Tami would demand an independent inquiry into the conduct of the police throughout the entire investigation of Abu-Hatzeira's activities in office which led to the indictments. Abu-Hatzeira charged at the time he was treated unfairly by the police.

Benzion Rubin, Deputy Minister of Labor and Welfare, warned Menachem Begin's coalition government that unless it started such an investigation within two weeks, Tami could withdraw from the coalition, narrowing its Knesset majority to a hair-thin 61 majority. Rubin told Israel Radio: "Ours are not empty threats."

Although Abu-Hatzeira is not obligated by the sentence to resign from the Knesset, some Knesset members urged him to resign voluntarily. Shinui Knesset member Mordechai Virshubsky said "it is inconceivable that a Knesset member should go to jail on corruption charges and then resume his seat as though nothing had happened."

An Alignment Knesset member, Yossi Sarid, took the same position, but the Labor Party, as a party, has not yet taken an official stand on whether Abu-Hatzeira should resign. Labor party sources admitted it would be unwise to antagonize Tami which, under existing circumstances, might shorten the term of the Likud government.

CEREMONY TO MARK FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF RUE DES ROSIERS TERRORIST ATTACK By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- President Francois Mitterrand is expected to attend a ceremony on Tuesday to mark the first anniversary of the terrorist attack in Rue des Rosiers in the old Jewish quarter of this city during which six people were killed and more than 20 were wounded. Elysee sources said Mitterrand plans to personally pay tribute to the victims of the ceremony which will be held outside Jo Goldenberg's restaurant, where the attack took place.

The ceremony is being organized by the Representative Council of Major French Jewish Organizations (CRIF) whose president, Theo Klein, said that such a commemoration is necessary to help prevent a possible renewal of terrorism and racist attacks. Most French political parties and major non-Jewish organizations also plan to be represented at the ceremony.

Findings Of An Opinion Poll

According to a recent public opinion poll, an overwhelming majority of French people believe that another anti-Semitic attack, similar to the one in the Rue des Rosiers, could take place. Of those polled, 88 percent said such an attack can take place at any time and 55 percent said France is the likeliest terrorist target in Western Europe.

The poll, published in today's edition of Le Journal de Dimanche, found that 27 percent of those interviewed believe that the Arab states sometimes encourage the terrorists and nine percent felt that Israeli actions spark terrorist reprisals. The poll was carried out to mark the anniversary of the Rue des Rosiers attack.

Mauroy Has Jewish Meal At Goldenberg's

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy showed up Friday at Goldenberg's restaurant together with a half dozen of his closest aides for a traditional Jewish meal complete with gefilte fish, chopped liver and the special of the day, "goldene yoych," chicken soup.

Mauroy said his visit to the restaurant was not just a gastronomic outing but a symbolic gesture "to show that terrorism cannot stop traditional Jewish activities and that life goes on unimpaired (in the old Jewish quarter)." After the meal, the Premier walked along the Rue des Rosiers shaking hands with the local inhabitants and assuring them that the government is doing all it can to protect them.

JEWS IN MANITOBA TAKE LEAD IN ACTION FOR FRENCH RIGHTS

By Ben Kayfetz

TORONTO, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- Jewish community officials in Manitoba have taken the lead among the non-Anglo-Saxons and non-French ethnic communities in the provincial government's campaign to obtain official status for the French language in this western Canadian province. Other ethnic groups that have followed suit are the Ukrainians, Indians, Portuguese, Chinese and Metis (Indians of mixed origin.)

For more than a month the Manitoba government has been trying to get a proposal adopted in the legislature to restore the constitutional rights of Franco-Manitobans lost 93 years ago after the legislature passed a law abrogating French as an official language. The New Democratic Party-led government's effort to restore the French language had appeared to be a losing battle against opposition Conservative lawmakers.

Tide May Now Be Turning

But the tide may now be turning, as a result of the intervention of the Jewish and other ethnic communities. Israel Ludwig, chairman of the Joint Community Relations Committee of the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council/Canadian Jewish Congress, declared: "In a multicultural society, sensitivity to the rights of the two official language groups (English and French) helps create an atmosphere that promotes the rights of all minorities."

Dr. Baruch Rand, chairman of the Board of Jewish Education, also expressed support for the government's effort, saying that it is "pragmatically workable and morally desirable." Danny Waldman, chairman of the Manitoba Parents for Hebrew Bilingual Education, stated: "If the French rights are denied, then it's so much easier to deny the Ukrainians, the Germans and the Jews similar rights."

Traditionally, the ethnic groups and the Franco-Manitobans did not espouse each others causes. In fact, each resented the others claim for language status. The non-Franco-Manitoban ethnic groups are more numerous in the province and feel that their claim to language status is more historic and tied more closely to the development of Canada.

The Jews, Ukrainians and other ethnic minorities have in the past sought government aid for their educational institutions in a country which approves the principle of multiculturalism. They feel now that it would be more helpful to them politically if they support the French-language cause.

DUTCH DELEGATION AT WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES PARLEY DEMAND CANADIAN UNIVERSITY DISMISS WAR CRIMINAL

By Henriette Boas

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- The majority of the Dutch delegation currently participating in the sixth assembly of the World Council of Churches in Vancouver in British Columbia has

demand that the University of British Columbia which is hosting the conference dismiss convicted Nazi war criminal Jakob Luitjens from its faculty.

Luitjens was sentenced to death in absentia by a Dutch special tribunal in 1948 for his participation in the death of Dutch resistance members during World War II and for his collaboration with the Nazi occupation forces. After the war, Luitjens settled in Canada where he got a job as a botany lecturer at the University of British Columbia.

Holland has repeatedly asked the Canadian government to extradite him, but to no avail since he is a Canadian citizen. The university also refuses to dismiss him. Robert Kaplan, Canada's Solicitor General, in refusing to extradite Luitjens, said the charges on which Luitjens was tried and convicted were not covered by the extradition treaty between Canada and Holland.

A spokesman for the university said the institution's position was that any action was up to the Canadian government and that the university considered Luitjens innocent until proven guilty. He added that the university dismisses employes on legal grounds and not because of the demands of "outside organizations." He was referring to demands by the Simon Wiesenthal Center of Los Angeles which sent a letter to George Pedersen, president of the university, declaring that Luitjens "cannot be allowed to maintain a position of honor" at the school.

PROTEST CARTOON OF KISSINGER WITH A CAPTION, 'FRUSTRATED JEWBOY'

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- Letters have been deluging the leading Dutch daily, NRC Handelsblad, in protest against a cartoon of former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger which carried a caption, "Frustrated Jewboy Responsible for United States Central American Policy."

The cartoon, by Frits Mueller, appeared after President Reagan named Kissinger to chair the National Bipartisan Commission on Central America. In an earlier cartoon, Mueller depicted Kissinger as a very ugly Jew. Several letter writers, both Jews and non-Jews, protested against the description of Kissinger as a "Frustrated Jewboy." The newspaper has so far refused to apologize nor has Mueller apologized or reacted in any way.

ARIDOR AND DULZIN IN A CLASH

JERUSALEM, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- Finance Minister Yoram Aridor and Leon Dulzin, chairman of the World Zionist Organization and Jewish Agency Executive, clashed in a sharp exchange over funding of Project Renewal, the program to revitalize slum areas in Israel.

Aridor reportedly accused Dulzin and Akiva Levinsky the Jewish Agency treasurer, of failing to meet the commitments they undertook as equal partners in the project. Under the agreement, the Jewish Agency is in charge of social welfare aspects of Project Renewal, while the government takes care of the physical elements.

Specifically, Aridor declared, a contribution of \$5 million, promised by the Jewish Agency five months ago for the rehabilitation of 13 deteriorated neighborhoods, has not yet been transmitted to the government. Dulzin reportedly was furious about both the content and the style of Aridor's charges, telling Aridor he would not let him treat the Jewish Agency "the way he treated the industrialists and the doctors."

ISRAELIS OF NORTH AFRICAN ORIGIN HOLD WEEK-LONG CONFERENCE TO CELEBRATE AND EXAMINE THEIR ROOTS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- Israelis of North African origin have just ended a week-long celebration and examination of their historic origins entitled "Shorashim (Roots): The World Conference of North African Jewry."

But the event, devoted mainly to music, dancing and folklore, did not appear to come up to the hopes and expectations of its organizers, who had anticipated mass meetings with the participation of hundreds or even thousands of Jews of North African origin now living the U.S. and Europe.

The events were only sparsely attended, apart from the opening and closing celebrations, with few visitors from abroad.

The initiator of the event, Shaul Bena Simchon, had stressed the unifying character of the conference, but most observers agreed that it had rather tended to put the spotlight on the ethnic differences between the many components of North African Jewry.

Begin: Unity Does Not Negate Uniqueness

This aspect was, indeed, brought out by Prime Minister Menachem Begin who failed to make a planned appearance at the closing open-air musical celebration in Jerusalem last Thursday.

In a statement read out on his behalf by Bena Simchon, Begin said: "Unity of the people does not negate stressing the uniqueness of local values inculcated over the centuries. These historic tinges and hues enrich the entire nation, if we always bear in mind that we are one people, all linked back to a common root."

The opening ceremony in Tel Aviv the previous week was addressed by President Chaim Herzog, France's Chief Rabbi Rene Sirat and Jewish Agency, Histadrut and army leaders.

One of the high points and major attractions of the North African conference was a computer terminal at which participants could trace back the origin of their names.

Largest Group In The Oriental Community

Jews of North African origin form what is known as the Maghrabi section of Sephardic Jewry and are the largest group within the Oriental community of Israeli Jews. Strictly speaking, the Sephardim are Jews who originated in the Spanish peninsula, with Ladino (a mixture of Hebrew and Spanish) as their lingua franca. These exiles from the Spanish Inquisition went to southern France, Holland and the Balkans.

The largest group from North Africa now in Israel lived in or are the children of Jews who lived in Morocco, with slightly smaller communities in Libya, Algeria and Tunisia. Other Sephardim are made up of Oriental Jews of Iraqi, Yemenite, Iranian, Syrian and Lebanese origin.

CEREMONY MARKS WALLENBERG'S BIRTHDAY

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- More than 100 people, among them Naphtali Lavie, Israel's Consul General in New York, and Hans Andersson, Acting Consul General of Sweden in New York, gathered here last Thursday to mark the 71st birthday of Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat who saved an estimated 100,000 Hungarian Jews during World War II and then disappeared in the Soviet Union after being arrested by Russian troops in Budapest in 1945.

The birthday observance took place opposite the United Nations building. It was sponsored by the Raoul Wallenberg Committee of the United States and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. The observance began with a wreath-laying ceremony at the Holocaust Memorial Wall on Dag Hammarskjold Plaza, in memory of the many victims of the Nazis whom Wallenberg was unable to save, and then proceeded to the Isaiah Wall across the street from the UN headquarters.

According to Rachel Oestreicher Haspel, president of the Wallenberg Committee, similar public Wallenberg birthday observances were held in Stockholm, Jerusalem, London and Philadelphia.

Lavie and Andersson paid tribute to Wallenberg's courage in saving the Jews. They called upon the Soviet Union to disclose to the world the fate of Wallenberg and to release him if he is still alive.

Participants in the ceremony carried 71 balloons, marking Wallenberg's 71st birthday. The ceremony ended with cutting of a birthday cake. "We firmly believe that Wallenberg is alive and therefore we are celebrating his 71st birthday today," Mrs. Haspel declared.

Israeli Stamps Commemorate Wallenberg

In Washington, in a ceremony yesterday on Capitol Hill, Israeli Ambassador Meir Rosenne presented 14-Shekel stamps commemorating Wallenberg to present and former members of Congress who have been active in pressing the Wallenberg issue. The stamps contain a picture of Wallenberg and a line from the Book of Proverbs, "But the path of the just is as the shining light."

Receiving the stamps were Sens. Claiborne Pell (D. R.I.), and Daniel Moynihan (D. N. Y.) and former Sen. Frank Church of Idaho; Reps. Peter Rodino (D. N. J.), Jack Kemp (R. N. Y.), Don Bonder (D. Wash.) and Tom Lantos (D. Cal.) and former Rep. Edward Derwinsky of Illinois, who is now the State Department counselor.

PUBLICATION OF BOOK WITH ANTI-JEWISH BIAS FORCES GERMAN TOWN ARCHIVIST TO RESIGN

By David Kantor

BONN, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- Walter Ohlmer, the archivist of the town of Moringen on Lower Saxony, has resigned, following protests over the publication of an official book about the town which contains a clear anti-Jewish bias. The book was sharply condemned by Prime Minister Ernst Albrecht of the federal state of Lower Saxony.

Ohlmer had written a chronicle called "1,000 Years of Moringen" in which Kristallnacht (the night of shattered glass, referring to the Nazi rampage during which the windows of Jewish-owned stores in Germany were shattered) was attributed to Jewish provocations. The chronicle referred to the members of the former Jewish community in Moringen as people who were unwilling to earn their livelihood by honest work.

Albrecht, in a letter to Heinz Galinski, chairman of the Jewish community of Berlin, wrote that the prosecutor's office is considering the possibility of opening an investigation against those who were responsible for the chronicle's publication. Ohlmer's job was to keep the records of the town of Moringen. It was an honorary position.

JOSEPH HERBSTEIN DEAD AT 85

TEL AVIV, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- Funeral services were held last Friday for Joseph Herbststein, former Justice of the South African Supreme Court. He died in his home in Sayon near Tel Aviv. He was 85 years old. Herbststein, a life-long Zionist and one of the few Jews to serve as a Supreme Court Justice in South Africa, had resided in Israel since his retirement from the bench in 1963.