

**REAGAN URGES USSR TO HALT SHIPMENT OF SOPHISTICATED ARMS TO THE MIDEAST AND SUGGESTS SOVIETS COULD WORK WITH U.S. IN EASING MIDEAST TENSIONS**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16 (JTA) — President Reagan today urged the Soviet Union to stop sending "sophisticated weapons" to the Middle East and to live up to its human rights obligations under the Helsinki Accords. He also suggested that the USSR could work with the U.S. in easing regional tensions such as those in the Middle East.

Reagan's remarks were made in a nationally televised speech in which he urged the Soviet Union to resume the dialogue on arms control. The speech, which was sent by satellite to Europe, came two days before Secretary of State George Shultz is scheduled to meet Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko in Stockholm.

While noting that arms control is "the most visible area of Soviet-U.S. dialogue," Reagan added, "A durable peace requires both of us to defuse tensions and regional conflicts."

"Take the Middle East for example," the President continued. "Everyone's interests would be served by stability in the region and our efforts are directed toward that goal. The Soviets could help reduce tensions there instead of introducing sophisticated weapons into the area. This would certainly help us to deal more positively with other aspects of our relationship."

**Says USSR, Surrogates Exploit Local Conflicts**

Earlier in his address, Reagan accused the Soviets and their surrogates of having "exploited" local conflicts. "Fueling regional conflicts and exporting violence only exacerbates local tensions, increases suffering and makes solutions to real social and economic problems more difficult," the President said. "Further, such activity carries with it the risk of larger confrontations."

The President said it would be better for the U.S. and USSR to "work together" to help find peaceful solutions to regional problems. But he said that "the gap in American and Soviet perceptions and policy is so great that our immediate objective—must be more modest. As a first step, our governments should jointly examine concrete actions we both can take to reduce the risk of U.S.-Soviet confrontation in these areas. And if we succeed, we should be able to move beyond this immediate objective."

Later, White House spokesman Larry Speakes said he could not be specific but noted that the Soviets "can be helpful in the Middle East." He said there can be a dialogue between the U.S. and the Soviet Union on the Middle East and the Soviets "could use their influence," an apparent reference to Syria.

**Expresses Concern Over Prisoners of Conscience**

Reagan mentioned human rights as "another problem in our relationship with the Soviet Union." He said "Soviet practices in this area, as much as any other issue, have created the mistrust and ill will that hangs over our relationship."

Reagan expressed his "deep concern over prisoners of conscience in the Soviet Union and over the virtual halt in the emigration of Jews, Armenians and others who wish to join their families abroad."

"Our request is simple and straightforward, that the Soviet Union lives up to the obligations it has freely assumed under international covenants—in particular its commitments under the Helsinki Accords. Experience has shown that greater respect for human rights can contribute to progress in other areas of the Soviet-American relationship."

**U.S. REMAINS HOPEFUL FOR A SETTLEMENT IN LEBANON**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16 (JTA) — The Reagan Administration maintained today that it "remains hopeful" that a settlement in Lebanon can still be achieved. This view was given by White House spokesman Larry Speakes after Israel Radio reported that President Reagan's special envoy, Donald Rumsfeld, told Israeli officials yesterday that after his meeting with Syrian President Hafez Assad last Friday, he believed chances for an agreement had "decreased." Speakes refused to comment on Rumsfeld's reported remarks.

Speakes also refused to give any assessment of the situation since Rumsfeld's meetings in Damascus last week, but rejected the view that the talks with Assad went "very badly." Assad reportedly is now demanding not only that Lebanon abrogate its May 17, 1983 agreement but that U.S. troops as well as the Israelis leave Lebanon before he will consider withdrawing Syrian forces.

**Lebanon May Cancel May 17 Accord**

Meanwhile, Lebanese Premier Shafiq Al-Wazzan was quoted in an independent Beirut newspaper today saying his government would consider cancelling the May 17 accord with Israel "if Israel keeps its arbitrary measures that run counter to the Lebanese rights and if it continues to mistreat the Lebanese in south Lebanon."

Al-Wazzan added: "I say as a responsible official that we will not ratify this agreement. When I say we will not ratify, I mean that we will not sign this check." According to Al-Wazzan, the accord had a "negative effect" on Lebanese-Syrian relations. The Lebanese government has not ratified the May 17 accord.

**PLAN TO EXPAND JEWISH QUARTER IN HEBRON MIGHT BE REVIVED**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 16 (JTA) — The government appears about to revive a controversial plan to expand the Jewish quarter in Hebron. It is strongly supported by Jewish settlers and their advocates in the Knesset and government. But some Likud MKs have expressed reservations over the cost at a time of economic retrenchment, and possible political repercussions.

Nevertheless, a discussion of the plan at the top level of government was scheduled for today. It was postponed only because Premier Yitzhak Shamir and

other senior ministers were attending the funeral of Maj. Saad Haddad, the Christian militia leader in south Lebanon who died Saturday.

The government approved the plan in principle in 1981. It calls for enlargement of the existing Jewish enclave around the Abraham Abinu Synagogue in the heart of Hebron to embrace the entire area of what is now the Arab market-place. The market would be relocated and vendors compensated at a cost, estimated by the Defense Ministry, of about \$1.6 million. This does not include rebuilding the Jewish quarter itself.

The market stands on land that was once the Jewish quarter of Hebron, razed by the Jordanian administration in 1950. It is therefore Jewish-owned, most of its property of the Habad Hasidic movement. Other parcels belong to individuals, some of whom cannot be traced. That land is in the hands of the custodian of absentee owners' property.

Although Jewish settlers are seeking to raise money from their supporters abroad, the bulk of the project's cost would be borne by the Treasury. Likud MK Meir Shitrit, a member of the Knesset Finance Committee, argued today that the time is not ripe for pouring large sums of money into the Hebron when there are great social needs throughout the country. Pro-settlement militants promptly denounced him.

#### Part Of A Broader Debate

The controversy over the Hebron project is part of a broader debate on a proposed freeze of settlement activity on the West Bank for economic reasons. A bill to that effect is expected to be presented in the Knesset today by Likud MKs Dror Seigerman and Yitzhak Berman.

Shamir said last week that there would be no settlement freeze but that settlement activity must be included in the broad budget cuts proposed by the Ministerial Economic Committee. Representatives of the settlers were due to meet today with Shamir and Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orgad to discuss the proposed cuts.

The settlers claim that the proposals represent 25 percent of the budget for settlements which is a larger reduction than in any other area of government expenditures. The establishment of 12 new settlements would have to be postponed, they say.

There is also a political dimension. The U.S. is on record as urging the Israel government to freeze settlement activity as a way of advancing the peace process. There seems to be growing sentiment for a freeze in Israel. A recent poll showed that for the first time, a majority of the public favored a freeze. The issue could come to a head in Hebron.

Although Jewish settlers claim most Arab vendors are willing to be relocated, government expropriation of the market place is almost certain to stir political protests in a town of 70,000 Arabs.

#### 8 DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL HOPEFULS IN THREE-HOUR DEBATE BARELY MENTION ISRAEL OR THE MIDDLE EAST

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16 (JTA) — Israel and the Middle East were barely mentioned during the three-hour debate between the eight candidates for the Democratic presidential nomination at Dartmouth College yesterday which was nationally televised over the Public Broadcasting System.

The issue was brought up at the end of the first 90-minute segment which was largely devoted to nuclear

clear weapons and the defense budget. The second 90 minutes in which Phil Donahue moderated questions from the audience at the New Hampshire school was mainly devoted to domestic issues.

Ted Koppel, who asked questions during the first 90 minutes, brought up the Mideast with a brief question about Lebanon and the new strategic relationship between the U.S. and Israel. The Rev. Jesse Jackson repeated his contention that the U.S. cannot seem to be an ally of Israel alone in the Middle East.

"We have an interest as a superpower in all" of the 22 nations of the Middle East, Jackson said. "We have an obligation to support Israel's right to exist with security within internationally recognized borders." But he added, "Saudi Arabia is our ally too and so is Kuwait and so is Egypt. And strategic alliances with Israel cannot protect America or Israel."

But Sen. Alan Cranston of California said, "I don't think you can have an even-handed policy with nations that resort to violence and terrorism, with nations that are in a holy war with Israel and refuse to accept the right of Israel to exist in the Middle East." He added "If the Arab nations drop the holy war concept against them (Israel), then I think we can work things out."

Former Vice President Walter Mondale said he has long advocated a "strong and new close strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel."

On Lebanon, Mondale and Sens. Gary Hart of Colorado and Ernest Hollings of South Carolina urged the withdrawal of the marines from Lebanon. But, Sen. John Glenn of Ohio said the marines should not be withdrawn until they could be replaced by the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) which is now in south Lebanon. He said that to give a time for the pullout would mean that the Syrians would just "sit and wait us out."

#### PAUL BEN-HAIM DEAD AT 86

TEL AVIV, Jan. 16 (JTA) — Paul Ben-Haim, one of Israel's outstanding composers, died here Saturday at the age of 86. His music, successfully blending Western and Oriental elements, and his prolific activities and great talent won him universal applause and recognition.

Ben-Haim, born in Munich, Germany, studied music and wrote his first work as a school project at the age of 12. He graduated from the Royal Academy of Music and the University of Munich. He served in the German army during World War I and emigrated to Palestine in 1932.

He was an honorary chairman of the Israel Composers Association and was occasionally guest conductor of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra and the orchestra of the Israel broadcasting services. Ben-Haim was awarded the Engel Prize by the Tel Aviv municipality in 1945 and 1953 for his two symphonies, and the Israel Prize in 1957 for his "Sweet Psalmist of Israel." His prolific works formed part of the standard program for Israeli orchestras both at home and while on foreign tours.

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NEW YORK (JTA) — Iosif Begun's appeal may be heard this week, according to information received from Moscow by the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry. Begun has been held in Vladimir Prison since his arrest in November, 1982 on charges of "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda" last Octob-

## FOCUS ON ISSUES

WOMEN OF FAITH PONDER  
WOMEN'S POWER IN THE '80s  
By Helen Silver

ARLINGTON, Va., Jan. 16 (JTA) -- There were no strident marches, no splashy banners, no flamboyant hats. But their theme, "Power and Powerlessness," identified them as feminists -- religiously-oriented women quietly determined to forge changes within their own religious spheres and on the national and international scenes as well.

A group of 100 women of many Jewish, Christian and Moslem denominations gathered here last week on the campus of Marymount College, a private independent women's college, for the Second Women of Faith in the '80s conference. A fourth of the delegates were Jewish women of all ages reflecting Orthodox, Conservative, Reform and Reconstructionist viewpoints. The Women of Faith group was organized in November, 1980, and has a task force of 16 prestigious and religious leaders.

The conference coordinators were Inge Lederer Gibel, American Jewish Committee interreligious affairs department program specialist; Sister Ann Gillen, of the Society of the Holy Child Jesus; Dr. Doris Ann Younger, general director of Church Women United.

The three-day gathering's theme was stated eloquently by Younger. "We are at an important time as women. Women are beginning to claim their power, and that means it's a critical time for us to come together," she said.

## Women In The Jewish Community

The issue of women's power, or lack of it, in the Jewish community was discussed by Dr. Ellen Umansky, assistant professor of religion in Emory University, Atlanta, Ga. She stated that a recent study she conducted on women's growing access to power within the Jewish community showed only slightly encouraging results. "Within Jewish organizations, outside of synagogue life, power remains overwhelmingly in the hands of men and shows little sign of improvement," Umansky stated.

The conference also dealt with such wide-ranging issues as the "isms" victimizing women today: racism, classism, sexism and ageism; anti-Semitism and its role in international politics in the women's movement and in the Soviet Union; and women's struggle for identity within and beyond religious and ethnic communities.

## Anti-Semitism In The Women's Movement

Discussing anti-Semitism in international politics, Cherry Frank, area director of the American Jewish Committee in Atlanta, stated: "It is one of the tragedies of our times that the 'Zionist equation with racism' should be reinforced within the international women's movement, and that it has grown and flourished within the pollution that surrounds the world of international politics."

Perdita Huston, an educator who was a member of the U.S. delegation to the 1980 United Nations Women's Conference in Copenhagen, reviewed the politicalization which occurred there and urged steps to prevent its recurrence at the next conference to be held in Nairobi, Kenya, in 1985. "We must talk to other women; become more sophisticated about international issues; and stand together against anti-Semitism, racism, apartheid, classism, and militarism," she urged.

The participants at the conference here adopted a resolution urging the U.S. government to consult American women when preparing the agenda and appointing delegates for the Nairobi conference, and that these delegates "reflect international expertise and experience and the ethnic, religious, economic and political diversity of U.S. women." The resolution also urged that the U.S. delegation be given "freedom to interact with other delegates within the framework of existing U.S. policy."

## Situation In The Soviet Union

Focusing on the situation in the Soviet Union, Gillen reported that a 1981 survey of state-controlled Soviet publications contained 1,814 negative anti-Jewish items.

"You could find eight negative items about Jews or Judaism or about Israel or related to Israel's influence in the Middle East every day ... yet not one positive reference about the Jews or Judaism, their religion, culture, or history. The image of Jews is presented as an aggressive and dangerous people, and Soviet television has been used to focus on Soviet Jewry's immigration leaders as disloyal persons, hooligans, and CIA agents," Gillen said.

She urged the Women of Faith to continue their dialogue in the U.S. and abroad. "We still need much more participation if we are to really build up the kind of coalition that will help to provide an escape hatch for Jews and for those Christians who want to leave the Soviet Union for religious freedom elsewhere," Gillen declared.

## Urges Social Justice And Human Priority

Dealing with the "isms" victimizing women today, Rev. Elizabeth Scott, director of Justice for Women of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., spoke from the perspective of a Black woman. "Racism, classism, sexism and ageism are most often viewed as domestic problems," she said. "Daily we are becoming aware of the interrelatedness of domestic and global issues. We must now weave a global fiber for a world community based on social justice and human priority," Scott stated.

Betty Letzig, executive secretary of the Office of Coalition for Human Development, The United Methodist Church, deplored negative stereotyping of older people in the media. "Most regrettable is the extent to which older people tend to accept themselves in such negative images," she declared.

"As to the image of older workers, with women at the bottom of the group, the older worker is thought to have little left to give, to be accident-or illness-prone, have a high rate of absenteeism, be slow in reaction time, and faulty in judgment. To the contrary, on-the-job studies generally show that older workers are as good, if not better than their younger counterparts."

Discussing women's struggle for identity within and beyond religious and ethnic communities, Mary Crichlow, active in the Lutheran church and a past director of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, said, "Women must work together to defeat and destroy the real bane of our society: the apathy, the sense of detachment, the disinterest in the fate of our neighbor, the unconcern with one another which surrounds us all."

## Cites Hopeful Signs Of Progress

Blu Greenberg, well-known feminist, author and lecturer, assessed progress made by Orthodox Jewish women in the religious community.

"For the sake of the integrity of the community and continuity of tradition, I understand that progress is often made in small stages ... There has been a great deal of progress in my own community in the area of women's learning, in suitability of written texts, in women's prayer groups and liturgical seriousness, in celebration of rites of passage, and in genuine attempts to reduce the abuse of Jewish divorce laws. These are all hopeful signs ... I prefer to look at it as a cup that's half full and getting fuller."

#### ISRAELI GOVERNMENT IMPOSES SEVERE FOREIGN CURRENCY RESTRICTIONS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 16 (JTA) -- The government tonight banned Israelis from holding bank accounts abroad and imposed a series of other severe foreign currency restrictions aimed at controlling runaway inflation and reducing the country's growing foreign trade deficit. Critics immediately denounced the moves as ineffective and unenforceable.

Foreign bank accounts must be closed within one month under the new regulations which take effect tomorrow morning. In addition, Israelis are banned from holding or dealing in foreign securities, except those of Israeli companies traded on the New York or other overseas stock exchanges. Officials here estimate that Israelis hold some \$700 million worth of stocks and shares abroad.

Other measures announced tonight are a reduction from \$3,000 to \$2,000 in the currency an Israeli may take on a trip abroad; a ban on dealing in gold which applies to Israelis and foreign nationals who use money in Israel for such dealings; a drastic reduction in the amount of assets that Israelis who emigrate may take with them.

Yosef Sarig, Controller of Foreign Currency at the Bank of Israel, told a radio interviewer tonight that he was not prepared to say that additional restrictions will not be applied. His remarks caused widespread concern over Dollar deposit accounts.

#### Hope To Narrow Balance Of Payments Deficit

Government officials said the new measures would help narrow the balance of payments deficit by decreasing the amount of hard currency Israelis can spend abroad.

But a leading economist, Prof. Assa Razin, a former adviser to the government said tonight that the restrictions would make "no meaningful difference" to the trade balance. He said most of the measures could not be enforced and predicted that people would circumvent them by recourse to the black market.

"This is just of nuisance value. It will increase the public's nervousness, but little else," Razin said. He criticized the government for its "incapability of cutting its own budget meaningfully."

Labor MK Gad Yacobi, also an economist, said the new currency measures were a final, belated clearing of the "last ruins of the so-called economic revolution" instituted by the Likud government when it was first voted into office in 1977.

At that time, the government rescinded all foreign currency controls. Some were recently reimposed. But the measures announced tonight are a total reversal of Likud's original commitment to laissez-faire economics.

#### SOME 4,000 UNIONISTS PROTEST OUTSIDE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

JERUSALEM, Jan. 16 (JTA) -- About 4,000 angry

trade union activists demonstrated outside the Prime Minister's office today to protest cuts in social services and the erosion of their wages by inflation. The demonstrators represented 73 Histadrut-affiliated unions from all over the country.

Meanwhile, some 6,500 railroad and postal workers continued the strike they began yesterday and there are threats of strikes in other sectors of labor. Histadrut and Treasury officials were scheduled to meet later today to continue negotiations for a compromise on the wage demands of civil servants.

About 60,000 government employees staged a two-hour work stoppage yesterday and another warning strike was called for tomorrow if there is no progress in the negotiations.

#### CHILEAN JEWS CALL FOR THE PROBE OF ANTI-SEMITIC UNIVERSITY TEXT AND PRO-NAZI DEMONSTRATIONS

SANTIAGO, Jan. 16 (JTA) -- Chile's Jewish community has requested authorities to investigate a university textbook containing anti-Semitic passages as well as the participation of Nazi elements in a recent demonstration of a local Arab organization, the World Jewish Congress reported today.

The Comité Representativo de las Entidades Judías de Chile, the central representative body of Chilean Jewry and the WJC affiliate here, discovered that a booklet published by the University Press, used in preparation for aptitude tests for entrance to the university, contains violently anti-Semitic references.

According to the Latin American Branch of the WJC, the passages were taken from "The Jews in 25,000 Words," a book by Jacob Al-Kubba, a propagandist for the PLO. The book had been published in Barcelona some time ago and following complaints was withdrawn from circulation in Spain, only to reappear at the Santiago book fair.

The authors of the university booklet are Hugo Leon, Alonso Morgado and Jimena Schuster. The Comité has formally lodged a protest and has asked to be received by the Minister of Education, Oracio Arauquiz and by the rector of the University of Chile and President of the University Press, Roberto Soto Mackenney.

The Comité is also investigating the participation of pro-Nazi groups -- bearing banners and wearing emblems -- in recent public demonstrations. One such demonstration was organized by the Federation of Arab Organizations and held at the Ducal Theater here. The Comité has issued a communique declaring that "the community will with absolute certainty act in all such cases in a calm but extremely firm manner."

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TEL AVIV (JTA) -- The Wolf Foundation prize in physics for 1983/84 is to be presented to two Californians and an Oxford professor for their separate "... distinct pioneering contributions in the field of experimental condensed matter physics," the Foundation announced here. Prof. Erwin Hahn, of the University of California in Berkeley, Dr. Theodore Maiman of TRW, Inc., Los Angeles and Sir Peter Hirsch, of Oxford University, will share the \$100,000 prize. The prizes are to be presented to recipients in the Knesset next May.