

**SHAMIR REJECTS REPORT THAT  
ONE IN EIGHT ISRAELIS  
LIVE BELOW THE POVERTY LINE**  
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 18 (JTA) — Premier Yitzhak Shamir has sharply rejected a report released by the National Insurance Institute (NII) yesterday that one in eight Israelis — 12 percent of the population — live below the poverty line.

According to Shamir, the poorer classes are better off today than under the Labor regimes which governed Israel until 1977, especially if fringe benefits and extra services are taken into consideration. The Finance Ministry agreed with him and accused Tami, a Likud coalition partner, of playing politics and distorting figures.

Tami represents a low income, largely Sephardic constituency. Its minister, Aharon Uzan, holds the Labor and Welfare portfolio in Shamir's Cabinet. The NII, an agency of that government department, roughly analogous to the Social Security Administration in the U.S., reported that 500,000 people live on a monthly income of less than 14,000 Shekels (about \$140) which is only 20 percent of the average salary in Israel.

According to the NII, these people include 200,000 wage-earners and some 300,000 elderly people. The latter are without any source of income other than their NII payments, the report said.

**Explains Definition Of Poverty**

Dr. Israel Katz, a prominent sociologist and a founder and former director general of the NII, explained how the definition of poverty in Israel was determined by the Institute some 20 years ago. "You can use the number of calories and vitamins required for minimum health, for instance, and when we drew up the definition of poverty back in the 1960s, we compared the yardstick with what is in use today — and they jibed," he said.

"The definition was anybody earning less than 40 percent of the national average and that is the yardstick still used and still valid," Katz said.

He acknowledged, however, that "poverty is a relative term. You cannot compare poverty in Israel with that in Bombay. And I presume that a Texan with one Cadillac would feel he was on the poverty line if other Texans had 100 Cadillacs."

**Public Services On Verge Of Chaos**

While controversy developed over the poverty issue, public services throughout Israel seemed on the verge of chaos. Civil servants continued work slowdowns and other labor sanctions to protest the erosion of their wages by runaway inflation. Many government offices and ministries were paralyzed.

Railroad workers continued the strike they began on Sunday. The 4,500 postal workers who also went on strike Sunday, returned to their jobs today, but only temporarily. They announced they would resume their strike because the Communications Ministry refuses to pay them for the three days they were off the job.

The union representing 200 garages which service army cars announced they will no longer accept

work from the army or the Defense Ministry because they have not been paid yet for work already done. The payments were delayed because clerks employed by the Defense Ministry are refusing to issue checks to contractors.

Other manufacturers and businesses providing supplies and services to the Defense Ministry complained that the delays in payment are forcing them to take bank loans to stay in business and said they are being forced into bankruptcy.

**ISRAEL'S ENVOY TO GERMANY ACCUSES  
GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL OF HARMING  
PROSPECTS FOR MIDEAST NEGOTIATIONS**  
By David Kantor

BONN, Jan. 18 (JTA) — Israel's Ambassador to West Germany, Itzhak Ben Ari, has accused Deputy Foreign Minister Juergen Moellmann of harming prospects for negotiations in the Middle East by urging the European nations to put pressure on Israel for concessions that would bring Jordan to the peace table.

Ben Ari's remarks, published in a *Die Welt* interview today, appeared less than a week before Chancellor Helmut Kohl is scheduled to leave on an official visit to Israel. Diplomats here said it was unusual for an envoy to so sharply criticize a member of the government. Moellmann is president of the German-Arab Friendship Association and the most outspoken critic of Israel on the Bonn political scene.

Ben Ari expressed hopes that Moellmann's statements would be seen in Jerusalem as a one-sided reflection of Arab interests and not part of the dialogue between West Germany and Israel. He added that he hoped they would not damage the prospects for fruitful dialogue between Kohl and Israeli leaders next week.

According to Ben Ari, Israel's "Arab neighbors, and notably Jordan, have been taking the unrealistic stance that the Europeans and Americans can pull their chestnuts out of the fire for them. Amman is therefore sticking to its line of refraining from peace talks with Israel."

Moellmann has no contacts with Israeli diplomats in Bonn. Although he accompanied Kohl on his recent visits to Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Jordan, he is not accompanying him to Israel.

**ARGENTINE SYNAGOGUES UNDER POLICE  
PROTECTION FOLLOWING ATTACKS**

BUENOS AIRES, Jan. 18 (JTA) — Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli has ordered the police to guard Jewish schools and synagogues in the country, following attacks against synagogues in two cities this month. According to the World Jewish Congress — Latin American branch, unidentified persons attacked the Sephardic Synagogue in Rosario on New Year's Day and the Templo Libertad in Buenos Aires on January 12.

In reaction to these events, Troccoli ordered the police to guard synagogues and Jewish schools and issued a statement declaring that "the Ministry of the Interior considered it its duty to renew the deep pluralistic commitment of the government and its special respect for all religious parties ...". He added: "Episodes such as those which have recently occurred, fortunately sporadic, only reveal the existence of some extremist left-overs which will be fought with all the weapons that democracy can put at the service of freedom and in

the defense of its institutions." Troccoli received a delegation of DAIA, the central representative body of Argentine Jewry and the WJC affiliate here, headed by acting president Luis Comisarenco and secretary general Hilel Robinson. He assured them that a thorough investigation would be undertaken to uncover the perpetrators of the attacks with the aim of "applying exemplary punishment."

The DAIA leaders expressed their satisfaction with the replies received from the minister. Comisarenco stated that the attacks were "an aggression against the Jewish community in particular and against democracy in general whose destabilization is sought by these deeds."

#### Leading Paper Cites Context Of The Attacks

The prestigious newspaper Clarin referred in its editorial yesterday to the recent events, viewing them in the larger context of military politics in the aftermath of President Alfonsin's election. Clarin stated:

"The military are in no condition to change things nor to exert any pressure, but trustworthy sources believe that certain sectors might look for extremist outlets to make their views known. This is why the attacks against Jewish temples and certain telephone threats to legislators are being closely watched .... Synagogues have always been the first aim of right-wing terrorism. Up to now the attacks have had minimal impact .... The government reacted with the energy demanded by the aggression against a large national community. Not only did it clearly repudiate the attacks, but it also ordered the immediate guarding of the temples and Jewish schools."

#### WIESENTHAL IDENTIFIED TWO NAZI WAR CRIMINALS LIVING IN CANADA

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 18 (JTA) -- Simon Wiesenthal has identified two Nazi war criminals living in Canada and has urged Canada's Solicitor General, Robert Kaplan, to initiate action against them, the Simon Wiesenthal Center at Yeshiva University here reported today. Wiesenthal, who heads the war crimes documentation center based in Vienna, estimates that some 1,000 Nazi war criminals presently live in Canada.

His letter to Kaplan dated January 4, referred to two of them, Anton Shpak, alias Anatol Belotserkovski, and Bogda Babiak, both Ukrainians by birth. According to Wiesenthal, Shpak is a former deputy chief of police in Bela Tzerkow, Ukraine, near Kiev, who participated in the mass execution of about 2,000 Jews between October, 1941 and February, 1943. Babiak was identified as a former leader of the SS Ukrainian "Galizien" division based in Lemberg.

The division was established in 1943 by Reichsführer Heinrich Himmler to enlist Ukrainian volunteers on the Russian front where the Wehrmacht was taking a drubbing from the Red Army. The "Galizien" division was identified at the Nuremberg war crimes trials as a "criminal organization which carried out crimes against humanity and other atrocities."

Immediately after the war, members of the division were imprisoned in Rimini, Italy, under American military jurisdiction. According to the Wiesenthal Center, many of the Ukrainians, who were Catholic, obtained help from Vatican sources and managed to reach the United States and Canada.

Babiak now lives in Montreal where he has been employed for 21 years as an assistant clerk at Steinberg's, a major grocery chain. Shpak's present whereabouts are uncertain. Wiesenthal Center officials have informed Kaplan that a man matching his description is living in Quebec under the name of Belotserkovski. Kaplan has been urged to determine whether these men lied about their wartime activities when they were admitted to Canada.

#### CJC URGES CANADIAN GOVERNMENT TO DENATURALIZE NAZI WAR CRIMINALS

By Ben Kayfetz

TORONTO, Jan. 18 (JTA) -- The Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) has called on the government to denaturalize Nazi war criminals who lied about their past when they obtained Canadian citizenship, CJC president Milton Harris announced today. He said the federal government is looking seriously into this proposal.

War criminals cannot be tried under Canadian law for offenses committed abroad against non-Canadian nationals. Canada moreover has no extradition treaties with many of the Soviet bloc countries where the crimes occurred during World War II.

Andrew Coddell, special assistant to Solicitor General Robert Kaplan, has confirmed that the CJC proposal is being explored as a worthwhile approach. But he could not say whether the government is committed to it or, if so, when the first alleged war criminal would be charged.

Meanwhile, a team of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police has been studying the files on war criminals living in Canada. Simon Wiesenthal, head of the war crimes documentation center in Vienna, says they number about 1,000.

#### UJA NATIONAL SUPER SUNDAY RAISES \$13.4 MILLION IN 69 COMMUNITIES

NEW YORK, Jan. 18 (JTA) -- The United Jewish Appeal's Super Sunday 1984 on January 15 raised \$13,448,609 for the 1984 Regular Campaign and Project Renewal in 69 reporting communities, Jerome Dick, UJA Super Sunday national chairman, said today.

"But we've only just begun," said Dick, a UJA national vice chairman who has led the event since it began nationally in 1981. "Eight communities held Super Sundays before the January 15 national date, raising \$1.2 million, and 65 more -- including such major communities as Los Angeles, New York City and Philadelphia -- will be conducting their telephone marathons in the coming weeks and months."

The UJA of Greater Washington, D.C., broke its own record by raising more than \$2 million. In Boston, the Combined Jewish Philanthropies Super Sunday raised more than \$1,000,000, a 40 percent increase over 1983.

"We're confident that when the last community Super Sunday has taken place this spring, the national record set last year of \$31.3 million will be shattered," Dick said. Some 11,400 volunteers took part in the nationwide Super Sunday, obtaining more than 77,000 commitments.

#### ISRAEL BOND ORGANIZATION PRODUCED \$475 MILLION IN CASH PROCEEDS IN 1983

NEW YORK, Jan. 18 (JTA) -- The Israel Bond Organization produced a total of \$475,434, 250 in cash proceeds in 1983 for Israel's economic development through sales of its various securities, it was announced by David Hermelin, national campaign chairman.

Commenting on the 1983 figures, Yehudah Halevy, president of Israel Bonds, declared: "Our 1983 campaign was a good one. These outstanding results were achieved despite various problems from a sales point of view. They reflect the continuing unity of Jewish communities abroad with the people of Israel and their determination to mobilize maximum development funds for the strengthening of Israel's economy."

Halevy stated that "in addition to the response by Jewish communities, our 1983 achievement was due to the continuing participation by key elements of the corporate world, labor, the banking community and employee benefit plans who demonstrated their confidence in Israel and its future despite its current economic problems."

Hermelin expressed "our deep appreciation to the Bond chairmen and to the many other Jewish community leaders whose devoted efforts made these encouraging results possible." He added: "Special thanks are also extended to the synagogues and the rabbis who participated in the 1983 campaign and to the professional staff of the Bond Organization."

#### SPECIAL INTERVIEW BREGER SAYS ADMINISTRATION'S POLICIES HAVE BEEN FAVORABLE TO THE CONCERNS OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Jan. 18 (JTA) — Marshall Jordan Breger, the recently appointed Special Assistant to President Reagan for Public Liaison, who serves as the liaison between the White House and the Jewish community, said today he believes that "The policies of the Reagan Administration have been very favorable to the concerns of the American Jewish community."

In a special interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Breger, 38, who was in New York to attend a reception in his honor given by the Republican Jewish Coalition at the Tavern On The Green tonight, said that the "favorable" attitude of the Administration was clearly demonstrated in the improved ties in recent months between Israel and the United States.

Breger added that in his view, the agreement of the United States to increase the grant level in the proposed aid package to Israel, is "a major recognition of the closeness" between the two countries and indicates "that it is an American interest to have a strong Israel."

Asked to enumerate other areas of concern in the Jewish community, apart from Israel, Breger mentioned, in order of priority, Soviet Jewry; tuition tax credit (a major concern of religious Jews); racial quotas; crime in urban centers, where many Jews live; and the problem of the elderly.

#### Outlines His Role

Breger likened his position to an instrument for "symbiotic relationships" between the Jewish community and the Administration. "On the one hand I have to explain and articulate the views of the Administration to the Jewish Community and on the other hand to make certain that the Administration appreciates and is being sensitive to the views of the Jewish community when it is making its policy decisions."

Breger contended that "In the past two years there may not have been as many lines of communications as it ought to be" between the Jewish community and the Administration. "But now," he claimed, "we are in a new phase. I have seen that the desire for communications is there."

Breger said that he is "satisfied" with the access he has been having to senior Administration officials

"so as to provide them with accurate information regarding the views of the Jewish community." He said that he meets on a "regular basis" with Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, National Security Advisor Robert McFarlane, with Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs Lawrence Eagleberger. He said that so far he has not met with the President.

Breger said that he also meets "on a regular basis" with leaders of major Jewish organizations, and leaders of the Republic Jewish coalition. Asked to name few of the Jewish leaders with whom he has been meeting, Breger replied: "I will be in trouble if I fail to mention all of them..."

He mentioned, however, the name of Julius Ber- man, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations in New York, as a Jewish leader with whom he talks often. He said that he will be coming to New York about every two weeks to meet with Jewish leaders and heads of Jewish organizations.

Asked to articulate the message of American Jews to the Administration, Breger said: "The Jewish community in America is concerned about the welfare of Israel and recognizes that a strong America is necessary to maintain a strong Israel."

#### Was Named To Post Last Month

Breger, a law professor, was named special assistant for liaison with the Jewish community by Reagan on December 15. He succeeded Michael Gale who had held that post since June, 1982. Gale left the post to become special assistant to the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Breger was, prior to his appointment, at the Heritage Foundation, a conservative think tank, on leave from the New York School of Law where he was an associate professor. He had previously been an associate professor of law at the State University of New York at Buffalo Law School and the University of Texas Law School. He received Bachelor, Masters and Law degrees from the University of Pennsylvania and also a degree from Oxford University. Breger, who describes himself as an observant Jew, is a member of Keshet Israel Congregation, an Orthodox synagogue in Georgetown.

#### IMMIGRATION TO ISRAEL IN 1983 ROSE BY 24.3 PERCENT OVER 1982

TEL AVIV, Jan. 18 (JTA) — Immigration during 1983 rose 24.3 percent over 1982, from 13,260 to 16,478, though newcomers from Eastern Europe dropped by 25.6 percent, from 3,275 in 1982 to only 1,767. Leon Dulzin, Jewish Agency executive chairman and head of the Agency's immigration department, announced this week.

Largest immigration increases were from Latin America, rising from 1,925 in 1982 to 2,799 — a 45.4 percent increase; a 28.5 percent increase from the U.S. and Canada, from 2,854 to 3,666; and a 17.2 percent increase from Western Europe from 3,650 to 4,278.

Dulzin pointed out that only 1,320 Soviet Jews obtained exit permits during 1983, of whom 929 (70.4 percent) remained in Europe or went elsewhere than to Israel, with only 403 coming to Israel.

During 1982 a total of 2,683 Soviet Jews obtained exit permits and 72.8 percent (1,927 persons) remained in Europe and 27.2 percent (756 persons) immigrated to Israel, Dulzin said. In 1981 the exit rate was 9,451 with 81.2 percent (7,675 persons) remaining in Europe or going to countries other than Israel.

# **SPECIAL TO THE JTA** **EMERGENT SPANISH-ISRAELI RELATIONS** By Michael Fooner

(Part Two Of A Three Part Series)

MADRID, Jan. 18 (JTA) -- Henry Kissinger created "shuttle" diplomacy, but before that there was "dollar" diplomacy, and "gunboat" diplomacy before that. Now "turismo" diplomacy has entered the lexicon of international relations.

It has come into use in recent months to refer to the peculiar process being used by Spain and Israel in establishing official relations and channels of communication, after 35 years of non-recognition.

Instead of negotiating a treaty and exchanging ambassadors according to international custom when two countries first establish diplomatic relations, these two are sending tourism officials to each other as national representatives, under directives to meet and organize intergovernmental activities.

Spain expects in this way to avoid confrontations with her Arab friends; and the Socialists in power hope to avoid a showdown with their left and right opposition parties. No slight in intended or implied by Spain's designating tourism officials to carry the diplomatic flag in approaches to Israel. In Spain, tourism has Cabinet status.

When, earlier this year, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Fernando Moran, who normally would handle it, began waffling on the question of recognition for Israel, under heavy pressure from Arab countries, the Council of Ministers voted to assign the responsibility to the Minister of Transportation, Tourism and Communications, Enrique Baron with authority to develop official activities.

The Israel government has named a career diplomat, Samuel Hadas, as director of the World Tourism Organization. He resides in Madrid, where he has been received by King Juan Carlos, and is liaison between Spanish officials and their Israeli counterparts. The Spanish press openly refers to Hadas as "unofficial Ambassador."

## **Commercial Relations And Technological Exchanges**

For 35 years, since the State of Israel was founded, the Arab nations have successfully kept Spain and Israel politically isolated from each other. Israel is one among only three countries denied diplomatic status in Madrid, the others being Albania and North Korea.

Despite this, Israel and Spain have developed substantial commercial relations and technological exchanges. Trade between them doubled each year from the mid-1970's, and reached about \$200 million in 1979.

By contrast, according to the political writer, Antxon Saraqueta, there has been a strikingly small Arab economic involvement with Spain, very inferior to what they maintain with other European countries -- all of whom have diplomatic relations with Israel.

With the new official relationship between Spain and Israel promoting an interchange of travelers, Tourism Minister Baron reported at the end of October that he was looking to annual Israeli spending of 1,300 million Pesetas (just under \$1 million) and 60,000 tourists from Israel.

Arab tourism is minuscule in comparison. The main impact from Arab countries has been that of wealthy sheiks buying up resort properties. This has been credited by observers as helping to inflate real estate prices in vacation areas.

Two factors are seen as bearing on Israel's confident prediction that diplomatic recognition by Spain is close at hand. First, of course, is the world oil situation, and the declining power of the Arabs to use their OPEC set-up in dictating political wishes.

The other is perception of moral/psychological and political realities. As a nation, Spain wishes to be accepted into the Western democratic community and, as an editorial in the International Herald Tribune put it, to hold back from full diplomatic recognition of Israel is an "obsolete and petty attitude not befitting" a country with Spain's ambitions.

Spain's influential intellectual community is taking up the idea. Said the nation's most respected philosopher, Julian Marias, of the Spanish Royal Academy, in a statement published prominently by ABC, the major conservative newspaper, "To now even question whether Spain and Israel would establish diplomatic relations is either ridiculous or scandalous."

He went on to enumerate the many strong ties binding Spaniards and Jews, and said a major part of Israel's population today is of Spanish ancestry, many of whom have retained their Spanish roots in language and feelings of attachment, down through the generations since the historic expulsion of 1492.

In fact, Marias said, during his own travels in Israel, he observed that Spanish is becoming the "primary" second language. It is scandalous, he concluded, that Spain has not yet achieved independence from Arab dictation. (Tomorrow: Part Three)

## **KENYA OFFICIALS CONCERNED OVER ACTIVITIES OF ARAB DIPLOMATS THERE**

LONDON, Jan. 18 (JTA) -- Government officials in Kenya have expressed concern over recent activities of Arab diplomats in that country, according to reports by Radio Nairobi received here by the monitoring sources of the World Jewish Congress.

Shariff Nassir, Assistant Minister for Lands and Settlement, and Emmanuel Maitha, a member of the Mombasa Municipal Council, complained that Arab envoys are interfering in local affairs and urged them "to stop creating divisions among Moslem followers." The two officials said they were troubled that inter-Arab disputes were being pursued in Kenya at the instigation of representatives from Arab countries.

According to Radio Nairobi, "Political events in the Gulf states should not be brought to this country to divide the Moslems because all Kenyans want to live together as brothers." Maitha said "No foreigners should involve themselves in local affairs as it is not their concern."

## **OFFICIALS OF BOOKFAIR APOLOGIZE FOR HOLDING BOOKFAIR ON YOM KIPPUR**

NEW YORK, Jan. 18 (JTA) -- The officials of the annual Frankfurt Bookfair have apologized because the 1984 fair will fall on Yom Kippur. The West German fair this year will be October 3-8 and Yom Kippur is October 6.

The apology came in the form of a letter expressing "regret" to all the Jewish exhibitors and participants from Ronald Weber of the fair's press and information department in Publishers Weekly, the trade magazine of the book industry. "For various reasons the dates of the 1984 bookfair, cannot be changed," Weber wrote. "We are, however, doing everything in our power to give our Jewish guests the opportunity of celebrating this festival in Frankfurt. The city's Jewish community would gladly welcome any visitors wishing to attend worship and subsequently to participate in a Kosher meal."