

LEVY WILL NOT CHALLENGE SHAMIR FOR LEADERSHIP OF HERUT PARTY

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, April 4 (JTA) -- Deputy Premier David Levy announced tonight that in the interests of party unity, he would not challenge Premier Yitzhak Shamir for leadership of the Herut party in the upcoming election campaign. He urged former Defense Minister Ariel Sharon to do likewise and withdraw his challenge to Shamir.

Sharon has already submitted his candidacy for the top spot on the Herut election list which will be decided when the party's Central Committee meets on April 12.

Levy announced his decision after a brief meeting with Shamir this evening, their third since Sunday. He told reporters that until tonight he had "definitely" intended to run against Shamir.

But the prospect of a divisive internal struggle before the July 23 elections, persuaded him to change his mind. "Sometimes a man must make a sacrifice. That is what I have done," Levy said. He added, however, that he was "sure" that he could have "led our movement to victory."

Factor In Levy's Decision

Political observers believe Levy's decision was influenced less by party considerations than by the damage to his own political standing should he have lost a second contest against Shamir. Levy challenged Shamir last September, shortly after Premier Menachem Begin resigned. The Herut Central Committee rejected his leadership bid by a 60-40 percent margin. Most political observers were convinced he would be defeated again.

Levy called his decision "the toughest ... of my life." He said that, in addition to party unity, he took into consideration the fact that Shamir is an incumbent Prime Minister. He said Shamir had been "very pleased" to hear that he would not oppose him.

Levy said nothing about any "deal" with Shamir. But some observers believe he sought a firm pledge from the Premier to name him Foreign Minister in the next Likud government -- should Likud win the elections. Levy has been pressing for that post, which Shamir retained after he succeeded Begin. Shamir insisted that coalition problems prevented his appointment.

KNESSET APPROVES FORMAL BILL CALLING FOR ELECTION IN JULY

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, April 4 (JTA) -- A formal bill calling for elections to be held on July 23 was rushed through its required three readings in the Knesset today. It was passed unanimously by the 40 members present, in contrast to the drama and tension late last month when the Knesset voted 61-58 to hold early elections.

The only hitch that developed today was a protest by the religious parties that holding elections on a Monday would desecrate the preceding Sabbath. They were mollified when the Knesset agreed to ban election campaigning until one hour after termi-

nation of the Sabbath. The house also voted to reduce from 100 to 66 days the period before elections during which civil servants and military officers must submit their resignations if they wish to run for political office. The change applies only to the upcoming elections which will be held more than a year before the present government's term officially expires.

In preparations for the election campaign, members of the Knesset Finance Committee today voted hefty increases in government funding for each of the parties. Economic experts estimated that the campaign will cost Israeli taxpayers about two billion Shekels, reflecting the rise in inflation since the last elections in 1981.

9 NEO-NAZIS FOUND GUILTY BY VIENNA COURT IN LARGEST PROCEEDING AGAINST NEO-NAZIS SINCE END OF WORLD WAR II

By Reinhard Engel

VIENNA, April 4 (JTA) -- Nine neo-Nazis -- one West German and eight Austrians -- were found guilty by a Vienna court this week of anti-Semitic acts, including the bombings of Jewish homes and Jewish-owned businesses, and spreading propaganda that the Holocaust was a hoax.

All received prison sentences ranging from three months to five years, but the sentences of five of the accused were suspended. The trial, which ended Monday night, had lasted six months and was the largest proceeding against neo-Nazis in Austria since the end of World War II.

Although the sentences were lenient, inasmuch as Austrian law provides prison terms of 5-10 years for bombings, and in some circumstances, life imprisonment, the fact that all of the accused were convicted established a precedent for future cases. At a similar trial in 1962, six of eight defendants were acquitted.

The charges included the bombing of the homes of Simon Wiesenthal, head of the Vienna-based Nazi war crimes documentation center, and Alexander Giese, a prominent Jewish journalist. Two clothing stores, part of a Jewish-owned chain, were also bombed, one in Vienna and one in Salzburg. A bomb was placed in a park in the old Jewish quarter of Vienna. None of the bombings caused casualties. However, the park bomb, which failed to explode, could have had disastrous consequences.

Charges Against The Defendants

The main defendant, Ekkehart Weil, a West German, is well known to the German and Austrian authorities for his extreme rightwing activities. He was found guilty of bombing the two clothing stores, burglary of a dynamite storage site and illegal possession of firearms. He was sentenced to five year's imprisonment.

Another defendant, Attila Bajst, was found guilty of aiding Weil in the Salzburg store bombing and supplying him with black powder for the manufacture of bombs. He was sentenced to three years in prison.

Manfred Luxbacher and Egon Baumgartner, also involved in the bombings, were sentenced to two-and-a-half years and 20 months' imprisonment respectively.

The five other men, members of various interlocked extreme rightwing organizations and described as "well-

educated" were found guilty of neo-Nazi activities and drew sentences of 3-15 months. Their sentences were suspended.

Apart from the criminal charges, all of the accused were found guilty of using the greeting "heil Hitler," distributing literature titled "The Auschwitz Lie," wearing Nazi uniforms and attempting to recruit young soccer fans to their rightist organizations. All of these acts are offenses under Austria's laws forbidding Nazi activities. But the court decided they were not sufficiently grave to warrant the minimum five-year sentences.

U.S. AND EUROPEAN MAYORS CONDEMN TERRORIST ATTACK IN JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM, April 4 (JTA) -- Twenty American and European mayors meeting here for the fifth annual Jerusalem Conference of Mayors, issued a statement yesterday condemning the "vicious terrorist attack" in Jerusalem Monday in which 48 people were wounded. The statement was announced by Theodore Mann, president of the American Jewish Congress, a sponsor of the trip along with the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the Jerusalem Institute for Israel Studies.

The statement, which was drafted by Mayor Harvey Sloane of Louisville, Ky., leader of the American delegation, and Mayor Thomas Wagner of Zurich, Switzerland, said:

"As more than 20 American and European mayors met in peace to discuss the resolution of common problems of urban life, a vicious terrorist attack one-half mile from our meeting site outraged and dismayed us. We express our sympathy to our host, Teddy Kollek, and to the people of the United City of Jerusalem, for this unconscionable and barbaric action against innocent civilians, many of whom were tourists. The PLO group or groups responsible should receive worldwide condemnation. They are criminals, not freedom fighters. This criminal act only increases our support for Israel and its people."

The statement was adopted by 11 American mayors and the mayors of Zurich, Switzerland, six West German cities, and Famagusta, Cyprus.

The American mayors who signed the statement were: Bob Bolen, Fort Worth, Texas; Andy Coates, Oklahoma City, Okla.; Joseph Frankel, Eatontown, N.J.; County Executive Charles Gilchrist, Montgomery County, Md.; Bob Martinez, Tampa, Fla.; Thirman Milner, Hartford, Conn.; Carmen Orechio, Nutley, N.J.; Roger Parent, South Bend, Ind.; Stephen Reed, Harrisburg, Pa.; Pat Screen, Baton Rouge, La.; and Harvey Sloane, Louisville, Ky.

EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS URGED TO INTENSIFY STRUGGLE AGAINST INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

BRUSSELS, April 4 (JTA) -- The Coordinating Committee of Belgian Jewish Organizations (CCOJB) called on the government of Belgium and all other European governments today to intensify their struggle against international terrorism. "The forces of peace must unite and act in order to prevent the world from becoming a ruthless jungle," the group declared in a statement denouncing Monday's terrorist attack in Jerusalem which wounded 48 civilians.

"The machinegunnings perpetrated in Jerusalem against innocent passersby are cause for indignation and disgust and recall, in their odious character,

the attacks (against Israeli athletes) at the Olympic games in Munich (in 1972) and more recently the attacks against French and American contingents in Lebanon," the statement said.

The CCOJB also asked the Belgian government to support its efforts to reach a permanent peace in the Middle East. The Union of Belgian Jewish Deportees asked all democratic people to unite in support of the Israeli people's efforts to lead a stable, peaceful life in the Middle East. "The fanatic killers' only objective is to torpedo any hope of dialogue by attacking civilians," the group said.

A statement by the Jewish Lay Community Center (CCLJ) said acts of the kind that occurred in Jerusalem "will do a disservice more than serve the cause of those who claim to be defending it. Peace in the Middle East can only be achieved at the negotiating table with all the concerned parties."

FIRST NATIONAL JEWISH ARCHIVE OF BROADCASTING OPENED AT JEWISH MUSEUM

NEW YORK, April 4 (JTA) -- The first National Jewish Archive of Broadcasting, a comprehensive collection of Jewish related material broadcast on radio and television over the past 35 years, has opened at the Jewish Museum here.

The archive, which will be a department of the museum, was initiated in 1980 with a \$550,000 three-year start-up grant from the Charles H. Revson Foundation. According to Eli Evans, president of the Foundation, the archive has collected, catalogued and preserved hundreds of acquisitions and enjoyed the full cooperation of the three major commercial networks--ABC, CBS and NBC and the Public Broadcasting System (PBS).

The material available ranges from the trial of Adolph Eichmann to a Jewish wedding episode on the CBS comedy series "Rhoda." Other items among the hundreds of audiovisual materials, kinescopes, videotapes and phono discs include a 1972 CBS News special about the terrorist attack on Israeli athletes at the Munich Olympics; interviews by ABC's Barbara Walters with Menachem Begin and the late President Anwar Sadat of Egypt; Leonard Bernstein conducting the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra; interviews with David Ben Gurion, Abba Eban, Golda Meir and Moshe Dayan on NBC, ABC and CBS news panels; Manischewitz wine commercials; and old tapes of the "Rise of the Goldbergs," the radio and later television serial starring the late Gertrude Berg.

The opening ceremonies last week at the Jewish Museum, which is affiliated with the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, marked the beginning of the archive materials' availability to scholars and researchers. Next fall, the archive will commence a full series of public programming based on its collections.

Services Provided By The Archive

The archive provides its services to individuals and groups by prior appointment only. Individual viewing and listening areas are available by appointment, for researchers using the collection for a specific study.

The museum auditorium is used for classes or organizations who wish to schedule screenings of programs from the collection. The archive also has an information library which provides reference books, periodicals, microforms, archival catalogues and clipping files that complement use of the collection.

In addition, it provides an internship program for college students of Judaic studies, communications, library science and engineering.

According to Fay Schreiber, director of the National Jewish Archive of Broadcasting, "As the first subject-oriented broadcast archives, we feel this is a tremendous challenge and responsibility. The subject matter is very complex, presents problems in identifying and locating broadcast material" because "there is no centralized source of information regarding the material we are seeking."

Much of the material has been provided by private donors, individual producers and television production companies. The museum invites inquiries from scholars and the general public. It is located at 1109 Fifth Avenue, New York 10028. Telephone: (212) 860-1888.

CONFERENCE ON SOVIET JEWRY STRESSES CONCERN FOR THE PLIGHT OF SEPARATED FAMILIES By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, April 4 (JTA) — A Canadian who participated with American, Canadian, British, Dutch and Israeli wives of members of Congress and Parliaments in a three-day conference on Soviet Jewry stressed that their concern for the issue was over the plight of separated families.

"What we are doing is not political," nor is there any "ulterior" motive, Penni Collinette, wife of Canadian Liberal MP David Collinette, said at a news conference at the end of the International Conference of Parliamentary Spouses for Soviet Jewry.

"What we are doing as wives and mothers is caring about families," she said. "We are caring about families that are not allowed to be together." Collinette added that the women were also asking "why a powerful country such as the Soviet Union, with the Russian well-known love of the family, would do this sort of thing."

A Bleak Time For Soviet Jews

Helen Jackson, widow of Sen. Henry Jackson (D. Wash.) and founding co-chairwoman of the Congressional Wives for Soviet Jewry, noted that the conference came at a bleak time for Soviet Jews with only 51 allowed to emigrate in March. But she said she was "pleased with the renewed commitment" by the 22 women who participated this week and their determination that the effort for Soviet Jewry must be "intensified."

"We will not give up this fight as long as the Jews in the Soviet Union risk everything to be free," Mrs. Jackson said. She noted that she was "trying to carry on" in the "tradition" of her late husband.

The Congressional Wives were founded in 1978 under the sponsorship of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. In April 1983, they held a meeting with the Canadian Parliamentary Spouses Association in Ottawa. The first international conference which concluded today will be followed up by a second conference in London in 1985.

Valerie Cocks of Great Britain said today that the U.S. and Canadian groups have inspired the European Parliamentary wives to form their own organization. She said that she hoped that the meeting in London will include women from all West European countries.

Markye Van Den Bergh of the Netherlands said she found it "remarkable" that non-Jews were so deeply involved in the issue since the efforts of

Soviet Jewry in Holland was carried out exclusively by Jewish groups. She said she planned to change the situation.

Tamara Barlev, wife of Israeli MK Haim Barlev, and Nitza Ben-Elisar, wife of Likud MK Eliahu Ben-Elisar, expressed Israel's gratitude for the efforts the women were making. Mrs. Ben-Elisar said that Israel is "ready and willing and anxious" to receive all the Jews of the USSR in their "historic homeland."

Mrs. Barlev said "the Jews have no future in Russia," but she believed that "there is a chance the Soviet Union will let them go to Israel, and only to Israel" because "to some extent, they do recognize Israel as the homeland of the Jewish people."

Although the Canadian spouses group was refused twice by the Soviet Ambassador to Canada, Mrs. Jackson said that Soviet Ambassador to Washington, Anatoly Dobrynin, refused to see the Congressional wives after the Ottawa meeting last year or to meet with the international group here this week.

Group Adopts A Resolution

The women adopted a resolution which will be presented to the Soviet Ambassadors in their respective countries. It said they "are resolved:

"To press for the release of the Prisoners of Conscience in the USSR—most notably Anatoly Shcharansky and Iosif Begun who were sentenced to especially long terms.

"To press for the reunification of families — most notably" Ida Nudel, Vladimir Tsukerman, Vladimir Slepak and Vladimir Tufeld.

"To urge the USSR to allow those who desire, the right to observe, study and practice their religion, language and culture.

"To urge Soviet authorities by all means available to adhere to internationally accepted standards of human rights behavior and the human rights provisions they pledged to respect in the Helsinki Final Act and other international covenants."

The resolution also said they would seek to have Soviet Ambassadors in their countries "enter into dialogues on Soviet Jewry" and pledge the women "to continue our national and international efforts by involving similar groups from other countries."

MERCHANT MARINE OFFICERS, HARBOR PILOTS END THEIR ONE-DAY STRIKE

TEL AVIV, April 4 (JTA) — Israeli merchant marine officers and harbor pilots ended their one-day strike which shut down Israeli ports yesterday and idled Israeli merchant ships at overseas ports.

The strikers and the port authorities agreed today to a Labor Court proposal for the mediation of grievances by the Director General of the Finance Ministry and the head of Histadrut's Trades Union Department.

The strike called by the marine officers union was not over wages but for government action in support of the country's merchant fleet which is, in large part, government-owned. The officers are demanding an effective national maritime policy, increased support for seamen's training schools and improved subsidies to ensure a viable future for Israel's deep-sea shipping.

BONN (JTA) — West Germany appealed Wednesday to the Soviet Union to allow Hitler's former deputy Rudolf Hess to be released from Spandau jail where he has spent the last 38 years.

HOSPITAL OKAYS LIVER TRANSPLANT OPERATION FOR ISRAELI INFANT

By Susan Bimbaum

NEW YORK, April 4 (JTA) -- Chaya Cohen, the 19-month-old Israeli baby in the United States for a liver transplant, has been approved for the operation by the medical staff of the University of Minnesota Hospital in Minneapolis, according to Rabbi Chaim Zelikovitz of Long Beach, Long Island, who has been instrumental in setting up the Baby Chaya Fund to defray the cost of the operation, hospitalization and related expenses.

Zelikovitz, who spoke last night with the baby's father in Minnesota, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the parents, Israel and Nurit Cohen of Netanya, have been provided with a beeper by the hospital to notify them when a donor liver becomes available. The operation must be performed within 24 hours of the demise of the donor.

According to Zelikovitz, the operation was approved after almost a week of testing by doctors, who indicated that the baby's cancer had not spread beyond the liver, a crucial factor in performing a transplant. Zelikovitz said hospital doctors were impressed by the baby's condition, given the circumstances, her father reported. Chaya was diagnosed as having liver cancer last September by Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem.

The baby's parents told Zelikovitz that the chemotherapy which Chaya received for almost three months immobilized her and also resulted in pneumonia. A medical report from Hadassah Hospital stated that the baby's liver cancer was resistant to chemotherapy and raised the option of a liver transplant as a possible means of curing her.

Report Chaya Is Alert And Responsive

Zelikovitz, who housed and cared for the family before they flew to Minneapolis last week, said that Chaya was alert and responsive and "crawling all over the place, full of life." Her development, however, had been stunted by the chemotherapy, said Zelikovitz, and whereas a healthy baby of 19 months would be walking and talking, Chaya had not been able to attain that level of development.

The baby has been in the hospital off and on since last Wednesday. The parents, who have been alternating sleeping at the hospital, are being housed and cared for by Chabad House in St. Paul. Zelikovitz said Chabad has been providing the family with their needs, including transportation back and forth to the hospital.

Israel Cohen is a teller with Israel Discount Bank, which provides a contingency fund for emergencies. Zelikovitz reported that the bank's fund had provided the family with \$15,000, and that the bank's employees throughout Israel donated an additional \$10,000. In addition, Israel's father works for the City of Netanya, whose municipal employees also contributed an undisclosed sum. Zelikovitz said the wife of Netanya Mayor David Alroee heads the committee which raised the money. The entire sum donated to date in Israel is \$50,000.

Generous Response Prompted By JTA Story

Zelikovitz reported that a generous response, prompted by the March 26 story in the Jewish Telegraphic Agency Daily Bulletin, has brought in an additional \$40,000. He said the donations, and "beautiful letters," have been pouring in from all over the metropolitan New York area, upstate New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Minnesota.

Donations of all sizes have been received, according to Zelikovitz, emphasizing the responses from people who have sent in what they referred to as their "last \$5." The hospital requires a guarantee of \$175,000.

Zelikovitz and his wife Yetta became involved in the case because Yetta Zelikovitz's brother, Rabbi Israel Meyer Wise of Jerusalem, who works with the sick in Israel and arranges for hospitalization outside the country when needed, arranged for Chaya's trip to the U.S. and her admission to the hospital in Minneapolis. Rabbi Zelikovitz is affiliated with the Mesizta Yeshiva of Long Beach. He said that those who wish to help should contact the Baby Chaya Fund, 31 East Penn Street, Long Beach, New York 11561.

JNF PLEDGES TO FULFILL ISRAEL'S 'DECADE OF DEVELOPMENT'

NEW YORK, April 4 (JTA) -- A unanimous resolve to fulfill Israel's "decade of development" was issued here by some 300 delegates from throughout the United States who attended the Jewish National Fund national conference on Sunday.

The delegates voted unanimously to endorse JNF's current program of settlement site preparation, access road building, land reclamation and agricultural research projects currently underway with the aim of progressing to a stage of extended development within 10 years.

Speakers stressed that because of Israel's current economic crisis, work towards reclaiming a large portion of the land of Israel is being jeopardized. Thus, they pointed out, substantial sums are needed to complete urgent development projects.

Charlotte Jacobson, JNF president, and Dr. Samuel Cohen, JNF executive vice president, presented detailed reports about current JNF programs reclaiming barren hills in Galilee and sand dunes in the Negev and Arava.

At present, they reported, only 25 percent of Jewish ancestral soil in Israel has been developed for settlement and agriculture. Yet it is in these regions that the population must be increased to offset the pressure of having 80 percent of Israel's current population along the narrow stretch of the Mediterranean coast.

Moynihan Pays Tribute To Late Senator

Addressing the luncheon session, Sen. Daniel Moynihan (D. N.Y.) paid tribute to the late Sen. Henry Jackson, his close personal friend for many years. He said Jackson was the embodiment of "honesty, straightforwardness and friendship for Israel and the Jewish people." Moynihan contrasted Jackson's record with the "totalitarians and Israel haters" dedicated to the isolation and "eventual destruction of the State of Israel."

Moynihan emphasized that the bill he introduced in the Senate that would oblige the U.S. to move its Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem "would be a signal to the world of Israel's determination to have its capital respected and supported as legitimate and sovereign." He pointed out that the so-called non-aligned countries have resolved that Israel must relinquish even West Jerusalem, not only what is usually called "occupied East Jerusalem."