

**SPECIAL TO THE JTA
MOROCCO DISPLAYS WARMTH TOWARD
ITS JEWISH CITIZENS AND
CORDIALITY TOWARD ISRAEL**

RABAT, May 14 (JTA) — The two-day national conference of Moroccan Jewish communities which opened here yesterday and ended tonight provided the occasion for a display of warmth by this Arab League member-state toward its 25,000 Jewish citizens and, more significant, cordiality toward Israel.

The 35-member Israeli delegation among the 500 participants and observers from abroad included 11 Knesset members. They were invited with the consent of King Hassan, suggesting that he viewed the gathering as an international forum with political ramifications.

The opening session was addressed by Interior Minister Driss Basri and Minister of State Moulay Ahmad Alaoui. The head of the Israeli delegation, MK Rafael Ederi of the Labor Alignment, invited Hassan to visit Israel.

This was not an official invitation since Ederi does not represent the Israel government. But should Hassan ever visit the Jewish State, it would be considered a breakthrough second only to the late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's 1977 visit to Jerusalem — a visit that was incubated in Morocco.

Nevertheless, while the Israelis and other Jewish representatives from abroad were treated as honored guests, the discourse between them and the Moroccan officials only emphasized the wide gap that must be bridged.

Call For Dialogue Between Jews and Arabs

Basri and Alaoui called for dialogue between Jews and Arabs and urged special efforts for an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue. Alaoui even called for the creation of an Arab-Jewish peace association for the purpose. But there was divergence over how such dialogue would be conducted.

Basri stressed that the basis of solidarity between Arabs and Jews could be strengthened by adhering to the charter of the Fez conference of the Arab League in October, 1982, shortly after President Reagan enunciated his Middle East peace initiative.

Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress, who also addressed the gathering, declared that a successful dialogue could be assured only by strict adherence to the Camp David formula. There is a world of difference between the Camp David framework and the Fez formulations.

Fez called for the establishment of a Palestinian state. Bronfman noted that "the peace process must follow closely the Camp David accords" which require that "negotiations on autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza must be renewed, not just between Egypt and Israel but also with the participation of West Bank leaders." He added, "We would hope that at some point the negotiations are joined by King Hussein of Jordan."

The WJC leader stressed that "before such renewed sessions take place, it would be most helpful if relations between Egypt and Israel were restored to a condition that is more in keeping with the

peace treaty." He said it was "disturbing" that Egypt recently broke off relations with Costa Rica and El Salvador because they moved their embassies from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

The issue of Jerusalem could prove a stumbling block to any Arab-Israeli dialogue at this time and to a subsequent visit to Israel by Hassan. The Moroccan ruler heads the Al Quds community (Al Quds is the Arab name for Jerusalem), an organization fiercely determined to preserve the Arab status of the city Israel declares as its capital.

Moroccan officials reportedly warned the Israeli delegation that Israel would face new problems if it persisted in urging other countries to transfer their embassies to Jerusalem. Since no Arab country will recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital, a visit by Hassan seems unlikely and the consensus of observers here is that he can do little more than help pave the way for better understanding between Jews and Arabs.

Hassan Hailed As A Moderate

Bronfman, in his speech, hailed Hassan as a moderate and a "humanitarian influence." He observed that "Here in Morocco, Jew and Arab have set an example for all the world to see of living in peace together, pursuing common goals and aspirations even as they worship their God through different doctrine and ritual."

He declared that under Hassan's rule, "Morocco has indeed become a moderate state, fully supportive of the concept that Arab and Jew not only can but must live harmoniously together."

The Moroccan press has devoted considerable space to the conference. Alaoui wrote in *Matin Du Sahara* that King Hassan is one of the rare Arab heads of state who could call on Jews and Palestinians for mutual recognition to prepare themselves for coexistence tomorrow in Palestine.

But such assertions are not likely to be accepted by Israeli leaders. On the other hand, neither the King nor Moroccan officials can be expected to show greater boldness in public. It is recognized that they must consider the reactions of the other Arab states and organizations.

David Amar, president of the Moroccan Jewish community, pleased the regime by writing in the local press that there could be no peace in the Middle East without recognition of Palestinian rights.

Importance Of The Conference

The importance of the conference was underlined by the presence of ranking French Jewish leaders, headed by France's Chief Rabbi Rene Sirat and Theo Klein, president of the Representative Council of French Jewish Organizations (CRIF).

In addition to Ederi, the Israeli delegation included Labor MKs Yossi Sarid, Raanan Naim, Jacques Amim and Naftali Blumenfeld; Likud MK Meir Shitrit; MK Aharon Abu-Hatzeira, the Moroccan-born leader of Tami, a partner in the Israeli coalition government; Mayor Eli Dan of Ashkelon, who is a member of Tami; Mayor Arye Azulai of Afula, a member of Likud; and Hanna Zemer, editor of the Laborite newspaper Davar.

While the Israeli media reported extensively on the warm welcome accorded the Israelis, Likud spokesmen in Jerusalem sought to play down the importance of the Moroccan invitation and welcome — presumably because Labor Party members were predominant.

LEVINGER ARRESTED AND HELD FOR QUESTIONING ABOUT SUSPECTED WEST BANK JEWISH UNDERGROUND TERRORISTS
 By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, May 14 (JTA) -- Rabbi Moshe Levinger of Hebron, a leader of one of the most militant groups of Jewish settlers in the West Bank, was arrested by Jerusalem police last night and held for 48 hours for questioning.

His detention followed several days during which he was called to police headquarters for interrogation about a suspected Jewish terrorist underground in the West Bank believed responsible for the aborted attempt to sabotage Arab-owned buses in East Jerusalem last month and for other acts of violence against Arab civilians in recent years.

Security agencies reportedly suspect that Levinger has important connections with the underground and may have had prior knowledge of some of its activities and participated in planning them.

Yediot Achronot reported today that Levinger may have signed a confession related to those suspicions. His son-in-law was one of the first West Bank settlers arrested after security forces foiled the bus sabotage attempt on April 27.

The 25 suspects now detained in separate prisons all over Israel are said to have been linked to the attack on the Islamic College in Hebron last July in which three Arab students were killed and 33 wounded. Security agencies are also trying to establish a link between the underground and the June 1980 car bombings that maimed two West Bank Arab mayors.

Report Shamir Approved Levinger's Arrest

According to Yediot Achronot, the police wanted to arrest Levinger last Thursday after his first interrogation. But Premier Yitzhak Shamir intervened, asking that no arrest be made until there is absolutely no doubt of Levinger's connections with the underground. Shamir finally approved the arrest yesterday, Yediot Achronot reported.

Residents of Kiryat Arba, the religious Jewish stronghold adjacent to Hebron which Levinger helped establish, were stunned when news of Levinger's arrest reached them shortly before midnight Sunday. The town council immediately went into emergency session to decide what the community's reaction would be.

"We feel that we need spiritual support," Mayor Shalom Wach of Kiryat Arba said. Town residents expressed fear that other local leaders might be summoned by the police.

Levinger, a leader of the Gush Emunim which bases Israel's claims to the occupied territories on divine injunction, was in the forefront of the Jewish settlement movement since the territories were captured by Israel in the 1967 Six-Day War.

He led the first group of Jewish squatters in Hebron in 1968 and later prevailed on the then Labor-led government to build Kiryat Arba which has become the largest Jewish township on the West Bank.

Levinger moved from Kiryat Arba several years ago to establish himself and a group of followers in the former Jewish quarter of Hebron. He recently returned from a visit to the U.S. to raise funds to restore the Jewish quarter.

When the investigation of the bus sabotage attempt appeared to confirm the long-rumored existence of a Jewish underground based on the West Bank, Levinger spoke out against vigilantism.

At the same time, however, he appeared to excuse it as a necessary response to the government's ineptness. He charged that the government was lax in protecting Jewish settlers from Arab terrorist acts.

Meanwhile, Haaretz reported today that one of the suspects in the bus sabotage attempt, an army officer with the rank of major, has been on a hunger strike for the last two days to protest the "exaggerated action" of the security services against Jewish settlers.

The investigation reportedly is now focusing on an alleged plot by Jewish extremists to blow up the El Aksa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock, two major Islamic shrines on the Temple Mount in East Jerusalem. Some of the suspects were said to have confessed and to have re-enacted their plans for the police yesterday and today.

There has been no official confirmation of any of these reports. The investigation remains under a news blackout. There was no indication today if or when any of the suspects will be formally charged.

NAVON URGES TARGET DATE FOR WITHDRAWAL OF IDF FROM LEBANON
 By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, May 14 (JTA) -- Former President Yitzhak Navon sharply attacked the government today for keeping the Israel Defense Force in Lebanon. He urged that it set a target date for withdrawal.

Addressing a group of students here, Navon, who only recently resumed political activity on behalf of the Labor Party, said: "Every child knows what is happening in Lebanon but the government closes its eyes to events there and disregards them."

According to Navon, "The army sits and waits for a central authority (in Lebanon) but this is only a pipe dream. What should interest us is the peace of Galilee, not the peace of Lebanon." He suggested that the government begin a phased withdrawal of the IDF from Lebanese soil, to be carried out progressively "bearing in mind the safety of Galilee."

LABOR PARTY LEADERSHIP BEGINS TASK OF PUTTING TOGETHER LIST FOR JULY KNESSET ELECTIONS
 By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, May 14 (JTA) -- The Labor Party leadership, constituted as an appointments committee, began the task today of interviewing aspirants for the Knesset on the Labor Party ticket.

The committee, consisting of party Chairman Shimon Peres, former Premier Yitzhak Rabin, party Secretary General Haim Barlev and former President Yitzhak Navon, met for 16 hours to receive delegations and individuals who explained why they or their proteges should be included on the Labor Party list in the July 23 elections. The petitioners were given no more than 15 minutes each to present their case.

The appointments committee will select 50 percent of the candidates. The rest will be chosen by local committees and various interest groups that make up the Labor constituency. The committee will then establish the order in which the candidates will appear on the party ticket.

They will be interspersed with candidates selected by Mapam and the other components of the Labor Alignment and the final list will be presented to the voters. Those nearest the top are assured of election.

Labor's arch rival, Herut, completed its ticket last week in a complicated series of secret ballots. The Herut list will be combined with those of the Liberal Party and the other components of Likud. One of the latter, the small La'am faction, is already

creating problems. Veteran MK Eliezer Shostak who is Minister of Health and Ehud Olmert, one of the young generation in Likud, are locked in a dispute over who really heads La'am.

At stake is the eighth spot on the Likud list, the highest allotted to La'am, which assures the candidate of election. It is claimed by both men. The La'am leadership selected Olmert by a 30-15 majority, but only after Shostak walked out of the faction meeting yesterday.

Shostak, who is 73 and has served in nine Knessets and two Cabinets, said his departure did not signify that he was yielding to the younger man. He said he left the meeting because the room was without air conditioning on one of the hottest days of the year.

Possible Posts For Navon and Eban

Meanwhile, Maariv reported today that Navon has agreed to accept the office of Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister in a Labor Cabinet headed by Peres. This was said to have been offered as compensation for not challenging Peres for party leadership. Navon is considered one of Labor's top vote-getters.

There was no immediate reaction to the Maariv report from former Foreign Minister Abba Eban who was considered almost certain to be named Foreign Minister in the next Labor-led government. Political observers believe he will be offered another senior Cabinet post should Labor win the elections.

MOSCOW RABBI SHARPLY CRITICIZED FOR SAYING THAT SOVIET JEWRY RALLY WAS AN ANTI-SOVIET EVENT

By Kevin Freeman

NEW YORK, May 14 (JTA) -- Adolph Shaye- vich, the rabbi of Moscow's main synagogue, has come under sharp criticism for his dismissal of the huge human rights rally in support of Soviet Jewry staged May 6 across from the United Nations in which tens of thousands of persons called on the Soviet Union to allow Jews the right to emigrate.

Shaye- vich told reporters, just one day after the rally in Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza that it was an "anti-Soviet demonstration and it was not concerned with the rights of Soviet Jews. Shaye- vich also denied reports of persecution and harassment of Soviet Jews.

The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith cautioned, however, that Shaye- vich, of the Choral Synagogue, "sadly is not free to speak for the Russian Jewish community, or even for himself." If in fact Shaye- vich represented Soviet Jewish Prisoners of Conscience and Refuseniks, the ADL said, "He would not have been allowed to visit the United States in the first place."

Shaye- vich is among a delegation of 20 Soviet clergymen and lay people touring the U.S. under the auspices of the National Council of Churches. While in New York, Shaye- vich, who does not speak English, talked to reporters in Russian and Hebrew, through an interpreter, after a luncheon sponsored by the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, an interfaith group, headed by Rabbi Arthur Schneier, who is also chairman of the World Jewish Congress-American Section.

Rabbi Avi Weiss, national chairman of the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry, said: "I feel deep pity for Rabbi Shaye- vich. He is an imprisoned puppet leader not free to tell the truth. Rabbi Arthur Schneier, however, is free to tell the truth and deserves our greatest rebuke.

"How can Rabbi Schneier sit by idly as Jewish activists are condemned as his guest absurdly claims that all is going well for Soviet Jews," said Weiss, spiritual leader of the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale.

Schneier is out of the country and unavailable for comment. Schneier was not present when a group of reporters were provided an opportunity to speak with Shaye- vich at the conclusion of the luncheon.

Herut Group Re-Evaluating Participation In WJC

Meanwhile, after the luncheon of May 7, Shaye- vich appeared at a closed-door meeting of the American Section of the WJC Congress, a meeting which triggered the decision by the Herut Zionists of America to announce that it was forming a special committee to "re-evaluate Herut's continued participation in the counter-productive programs of the World Jewish Congress."

Rabbi Dov Aharoni-Fisch, Herut's national executive director, called Shaye- vich's swing through New York a "despicable debacle" and said Schneier "has brought shame to his synagogue and the WJC-American Section, even as he has contributed to the calamity facing Soviet Jewry." Schneier is senior rabbi of the Park East Synagogue where Shaye- vich spoke on May 5, the day before the Soviet Jewry rally.

According to Aharoni-Fisch, between 75-100 representatives of WJC-American Section affiliate organizations participated at the closed-door meeting with Shaye- vich. He said Shaye- vich, among other remarks, asserted that there were "absolutely no impediments or obstacles" for Jews who wish to practice their religion and culture in the Soviet Union.

SHULTZ CITES U.S. MIDEAST GOALS

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, May 14 (JTA) -- Secretary of State George Shultz has stressed again that despite the U.S. failure to achieve its goals in Lebanon, it is the only country that most people in the Middle East look to for help in seeking peace.

"When all is said and done, most of the people in the Middle East recognize that only the U.S. has the necessary respect and influence throughout the region to serve as an honest broker and a peace-maker," Shultz said in a speech before the Business Council in Hot Spring, Va. Saturday.

"The important thing is that we continue to stand by our friends and resist the forces of state-sponsored terrorism," he continued. "If we do this, we will retain the trust of reasonable people on all sides while they sort out their positions regarding the next steps in the peace process."

Shultz stressed that President Reagan's September 1, 1982 peace initiative "is still the only approach likely to meet the most basic needs of all sides in the Arab-Israeli dispute."

His brief remarks on the Middle East came at the end of a speech which covered all aspects of American foreign policy. Shultz warned that the Reagan Administration is "prepared" to use American power if fighting in the Iraq-Iran war threatens Western access to its vital energy supplies.

BONN (JTA) -- The small community of Hofgeismar near the town of Kassel in Hesse has opened a Jewish department in a local museum which largely concentrates on documenting the history of the area. Jews lived in Hofgeismar and in neighboring communities from 1356 through 1933. Today, no Jews are known to live in this remote, mainly agricultural area.

**BEHIND THE HEADLINES
THE JEWS OF IRELAND**

By Milton Jacoby

DUBLIN, May 14 (JTA) — Although the Republic of Ireland contained 5,000 Jews 40 years ago in the days of the celebrated Chief Rabbi Isaac Herzog, the Jewish community now numbers only some 1,500 persons. But, paradoxically, Jewish influence has increased significantly. Whereas there was formerly only one Jewish member of the Irish Parliament, now there are three, each representing one of the three main parties forming the coalition government.

Judge Hubert Wine, honorary president of the Jewish Representative Council of Ireland, which is currently chaired by Quentin Crivon, fondly recalled the great days of Herzog some decades ago. Herzog, who later became Chief Rabbi of Israel, and was the father of Chaim Herzog, now President of Israel, was highly esteemed by Jews and non-Jews alike.

Assimilation Is Not A Problem

Wine attributed the severe shrinkage of the Jewish population primarily to the fact that young Irish Jews refuse to marry out of their faith and have left the country to seek mates in other lands. "Although we have some problems as Jews in this Catholic nation, assimilation is not one of them," Wine stated.

There are six synagogues in Dublin. The principal one is the Dublin Hebrew Congregation, where perhaps 125 persons gather on the Sabbath and which is packed for the High Holy Days. The Jewish secondary school and Talmud Torah is Stratford College, with 200 students, only 60 percent of whom are Jewish. Supported by ORT, it is considered one of the best schools in the country.

In terms of international developments, Wine is pressing for an Israeli Embassy in Dublin, but a major obstacle appears to be the government's insistence that it hasn't enough funds to establish an Embassy in Israel as a quid pro quo. And yet, Wine declared, there is a new Egyptian Embassy in town, in addition to embassies of several other Arab nations. Wine said that "our community is saddened by this situation, but we will not stop trying."

The Irish Jewish community works in tandem with British Jewry. It cooperates, but acts with distinct independence. It feels it can better serve the cause of Israel through unilateral action, and not by merging its identity with the Jews of England and Scotland.

Jews Of Northern Ireland Are Relatively Safe

The Jews of Northern Ireland, with Harold Smith, an Officer of the British Empire, as their head, are in Belfast and Londonderry, and number between 400 to 500 persons. They intermingle freely with their Protestant and Catholic neighbors and are highly regarded.

One of life's ironies is that while the other faiths live in constant tension and crisis, being Jewish in Northern Ireland means being relatively safe. There is even less anti-Semitism in Belfast than in the Irish Republic where incidents are scarce and pose no real problems.

A neo-Nazi publication in Dublin, issued by the National Socialist Workers Party, doesn't have any definite impact. And the Special Branch of the police, similar in nature to Scotland Yard,

provides Irish Jews with all the protection and cooperation they, fortunately, seldom require. The Irish press is also supportive, according to Wine.

He recalled that during a recent Parliamentary debate, Alan Shatter, a Jewish MP, was attacked by a member of the opposition who shouted, "Go back, Shatter, from whence you came." Whereupon, the leader of the opposition rose, roundly condemned his colleague for his remark and ordered his own party leaders to abhor any taint of anti-Jewish sentiment. And the media handled this incident delicately and very well, in the opinion of Wine.

**CONSERVATIVE RABBI CRITICIZES
ISRAEL'S ORTHODOX ESTABLISHMENT**

KIAMESHA LAKE, N.Y., May 14 (JTA) — The Israeli Orthodox establishment was criticized here for its failure to relate to basic moral and ethical problems confronting people in the Jewish State, according to Rabbi David Spritzer, chairman of the Rabbinical Assembly's Israel Region.

Spritzer made his charges in an address before the 84th annual convention of the Rabbinical Assembly, the international association of 1,200 Conservative rabbis meeting at the Concord Hotel through Thursday. He specifically called attention to the Orthodox establishment's lack of response to the recently discovered evidence about organized acts of Jewish violence against Arabs in the West Bank.

Once again, the Orthodox establishment has shown a reluctance to relate to the basic moral and ethical problems confronting the Jewish people in Israel, Spritzer said. "The people of Israel are looking for religious guidance on the basic question of life, as well as current moral and ethical issues. What is true patriotism in Israel today? How can we in Israel achieve a pluralistic society when God's will is involved in these issues?"

Spritzer accused the religious establishment of demonstrating by such a failure to speak out as being "more interested in political power and the money that it brings to the religious establishment rather than the ultimate value of interpreting moral questions in religious life."

Lavie: Israel Will Punish Jewish Terrorists

Israel's Consul General in New York, Naphtali Lavie, told the delegates that his government would take strong action against those found guilty of terrorist acts. "If there was the slightest suspicion of Jewish terrorists, we will take care of it. They will be put on trial and go to jail if they are convicted," he said.

While affirming Israeli justice, Lavie criticized Israel's neighboring states, saying, "I wish I could say the same for the Arabs. These kind of voices you don't hear, even from moderate Arab leaders."

There are today 40 Conservative congregations in Israel and 110 Conservative rabbis who live there and are involved in all areas of economic and intellectual life, according to the Rabbinical Assembly.

RAUFF REPORTED DEAD IN CHILE

NEW YORK, May 14 (JTA) — Walter Rauff, who is held responsible for the deaths of thousands of people in mobile gas chambers during World War II, died today in Santiago, Chile, at the age of 77, according to Chile's semi-official news agency Orde. The report could not be immediately confirmed.