

PERES SAYS HIS VISIT TO PARIS STRENGTHENED ISRAEL'S INTERNATIONAL POSITION AND FRANCO-ISRAELI RELATIONS
By Hugh Orgel (Tel Aviv) and Edwin Eytan (Paris)

Dec. 9 (JTA) -- Premier Shimon Peres, returning from Paris last night, said his three-day visit to France had strengthened Israel's international position as well as Franco-Israeli relations.

"I found a great deal of good will in France to help overcome the difficulties we have encountered in Lebanon and I must say, that from every possible point of view their attitude was extremely positive and very encouraging," Peres told reporters at a mid-night press conference at Ben Gurion Airport.

Peres said that in his talks with President Francois Mitterrand he raised the issue of Syrian Jewry and there was a possibility that Syria may now allow a limited number of exit visas for Jews. He did not make clear whether he learned this from the French President who met with President Hafez Assad of Syria in Damascus only a week before Peres arrived in Paris.

Peres said Mitterrand promised to do whatever he could to further an Israeli agreement with Lebanon for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from south Lebanon and security guarantees for Israel's northern borders.

Issue Of The PLO

He said the issue of the Palestine Liberation Organization had come up only briefly during his talks in Paris. Reports from Paris over the weekend said the PLO was the only matter over which Israel and France differ sharply.

Mitterrand and his administration believes PLO chief Yasir Arafat to be a "moderate" influence in the Arab world whereas Israel considers the PLO a terrorist organization and is determined not to negotiate with it, directly or indirectly, the Paris reports said. But those reports added that both French and Israeli officials see their differences on the PLO to be "more tactical than fundamental."

Discussed Nuclear Power Station For Israel

Even before Peres went to France last week, speculation was rife in Jerusalem and Paris that Israel was interested in purchasing a nuclear power station from the French.

Peres said on his return home that Israel was not seeking any nuclear reactors from France, with military potential or otherwise. "I, personally, in this visit, did not negotiate for the purchase of any reactors in France," Peres said.

"But Israel will certainly have to decide in the near future about the nature of power stations we have to buy for the coming decade, which can be conventional stations, stations operated by coal or liquid fuel or nuclear stations," he said, adding:

"We shall have to make up our minds in accordance with financial and technological considerations." He made clear that whatever kind of generator Israel decides it needs, "it does not have any potential but the production of energy."

Reports from Paris over the weekend said France offered to sell Israel two nuclear power stations to produce electricity for civilian use and that the two

countries were near agreement on all pertinent details. Those included the stations' specifications, price and even credit arrangements. But Israel is still undecided on the nature of the generators, whether conventional or nuclear, the reports said. Peres did not deny that he discussed such matters with the French, only that he did not "negotiate" anything.

Peres said a French decision to sell nuclear reactors to Arab countries would be made independently of any sale of nuclear reactors to Israel. "I am convinced that the French authorities will be very careful not to sell any reactors which have a military potential," he said.

A Labor member of the Knesset, Shevah Weiss, warned in the course of a Knesset debate today that Israel's acceptance of a nuclear power station from France would open the way for similar French sales to Arab countries. He insisted furthermore that before any deal is concluded, the enormous financial outlays and possible environmental problems must be considered.

Bilateral Issues Discussed

Apart from the issue of nuclear reactors, a large measure of understanding on the political and economic levels was apparently achieved during Peres' visit to Paris. He and Mitterrand reportedly decided to keep in close contact and to "institutionalize" regular consultations between their countries.

Reports from Paris said that a bilateral agreement providing for biennial summit meetings and a variety of lower level meetings at regular intervals is under consideration between France and Israel. France has such agreements with Britain and West Germany.

France and Israel will set up a joint committee for the development of scientific and industrial projects on which each country will be represented by four delegates; two will be appointed by their respective governments and two by the manufacturers and industrialists associations in each country. This is similar to the arrangement Israel now has with the United States.

Reports from Paris said Peres received as warm a reception from the opposition factions as he did from Mitterrand's Socialist administration. The Israeli leader met with two major opposition leaders, former President Valery Giscard D'Estaing and Paris Mayor Jacques Chirac, both of whom called on the premier.

Visit Described As Historic

Peres hosted a reception at the Israeli Embassy in Paris Thursday, attended by more than 2,000 guests including dozens of past and incumbent cabinet ministers, members of the French Senate and Chamber of Deputies, military and industrial leaders.

The Israeli Premier held lengthy meetings during his stay with Mitterrand and Prime Minister Laurent Fabius who was his official host. Fabius, in an exceptional gesture, went to the home of the Israeli Ambassador, Ovadia Sofer, to lunch with Peres. The outgoing French Foreign Minister, Claude Cheysson, and his probable successor, Roland Dumas, were among the other guests.

Peres' visit to Paris was the first by an incumbent Israeli Premier in more than 20 years. It was described by Sofer and other senior Israeli officials as "historic, highly successful, far above all expectations."

TOP REAGAN ADMINISTRATION MIDEAST AIDE PROMISES TO HELP GET NAKURA TALKS MOVING TOWARD PROGRESS

By David Landau and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, Dec. 9 (JTA)—The Reagan Administration's top Middle East aide, Richard Murphy, promised Israeli officials here today to try to get the Israeli-Lebanese talks at Nakura moving toward progress before they recess for the Christmas-New Year period.

Murphy, who is Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, returned to the region last week and flew here yesterday from Saudi Arabia for separate meetings with Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Foreign Ministry officials. He will meet later with Premier Shimon Peres who has just returned from Paris.

The Israeli and Lebanese military delegations met in Nakura last Thursday to continue their deliberations over an Israeli withdrawal from south Lebanon and security for Israel's northern borders.

It was their eighth round of talks in the Lebanese border village under the auspices of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL). They will meet again tomorrow for their ninth negotiating session.

Might Undertake A 'Shuttle'

Foreign Ministry sources said that Murphy promised his best efforts to get the apparently deadlocked talks moving. Murphy himself said after his session at the Defense Ministry that he was here "looking at what possibilities there are for movement ahead on the Lebanese situation." He is scheduled to fly to Beirut and Damascus and then, according to sources here, might undertake a "shuttle" between those capitals and Jerusalem.

Little information emerged from Thursday's meeting at Nakura. All parties apparently agreed to leak nothing to the press. It was known however that the Lebanese delegates outlined their ideas for the redeployment of the Lebanese army and UNIFIL north of the Israeli border after the Israel Defense Force leaves.

Gen. Amos Gilboa, head of the Israeli delegation, said after the meeting, "We are sitting, studying the plan and meanwhile there are additional things we must clarify." He added: "There are fundamental, very difficult problems with this issue of the Lebanese army ... where it will be deployed. Therefore we shall wait and see. We shall be wiser in a while."

Israel Radio reported Thursday that the helicopters ferrying the Lebanese delegation from Beirut to Nakura came under missile fire on two occasions last week from the vicinity of Beirut airport, just south of the capital. The Lebanese fly to the meetings because the coastal highway, controlled by various warring militias, is not safe.

FORMER CIA OFFICIAL SAYS TERRORISM IS WAR AND MUST BE TREATED AS SUCH

NEW YORK, Dec. 9 (JTA) — Terrorism is war and it's time for the United States and other democratic countries to treat the growing incidence of terrorist attacks as acts of war, a former official of the Central Intelligence Agency said here.

Speaking at a news conference on international and domestic terrorism — its history and its future — Dr. Ray Cline, former deputy director for intelligence of the CIA, said that terrorist acts such as last week's hijacking of the Kuwaiti airliner call for strong responses.

The news conference, held Friday at the national headquarters of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, was cosponsored by ADL and the Institute for Studies in International Terrorism at the State University of New York.

Opening the conference, Abraham Foxman, ADL's associate national director and head of the International Affairs Division, stressed the agency's long concern about the threat that "terrorism rampant" could pose to Western civilization. "As an organization dedicated to fostering human relations, we recognized early that a world intimidated by terrorists would not be conducive to enhancing relations between people," he declared.

Other speakers were Dr. Yanah Alexander, director of the Institute, Kenneth Walter, deputy assistant director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in New York, and Allan Gerson, special assistant to Jeanne Kirkpatrick, United States Ambassador to the United Nations.

Says Appropriate Measures Must Be Used

Noting that even the United Nations Charter upholds the principle of self-defense, Cline, now a senior associate at the Center for Strategic and International Studies at Georgetown University, warned that appropriate measures must be used to meet state-supported terrorism.

Asked to spell out his ideas on appropriate measures for the current Kuwaiti airliner crisis, Cline cited mobilizing the involved nations, pressuring the Iranian government to cooperate, the imposition of meaningful sanctions and punishment for the perpetrators. "If our reactions are lackadaisical," he cautioned, "we will have lost the war."

Cline called for an intensive campaign by the U.S. and other democratic countries to educate the public that the terrorist acts of the last 15 years aren't accidental and unrelated phenomena but are instead part of a distinct and carefully planned trend engineered by the Soviet Union and its client states, including Syria, Libya and Cuba.

1984 May Be Bloodiest Year Ever

Alexander told the conference that fatalities from terrorist attacks have increased 20 percent annually in the last decade. The current year promises to be the bloodiest ever, he predicted, reporting that there was a total of 2,645 incidents in 1983 compared to 2,838 in just the first nine months of this year.

Walton pinpointed the terrorist coalition operating in the United States, naming the Weathermen, the Republic of New Africa, the United Freedom Front, the Black Liberation Army and the FALN among the groups working together.

The lines of the coalition providing funds, safe houses and other aid, the FBI official reported, stretch from New England through Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey to Georgia and Louisiana and finally to Texas. Interconnecting links have been established, he said, between the 1981 Brinks robbery and other terrorist attacks, all leading back to the theft in a single day of explosive devices at a construction site in Austin, Texas.

REPORT THAT THE GAS THAT KILLED AND INJURED THOUSANDS IN INDIA IS ALSO BEING MANUFACTURED IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, Dec. 9 (JTA) — Methyl isocyanate, the gas that leaked from a pesticide plant in Bhopal, India, last week killing 2,000 people and injuring thousands more, is also manufactured in Israel and four other countries outside the United States.

Officials for Union Carbide, which operated the plant in India, informed The Jerusalem Post's Washing-

ton correspondent from their global headquarters in Connecticut that the chemical was manufactured and distributed by an Israeli firm, though he did not know its name.

The chemical is used to make a pesticide known as carbamates and is also produced in Japan, West Germany, Taiwan, and South Korea.

The Post's Beersheba correspondent reported that scientists from the Makhteshim Chemical works in Beersheba have been summoned to the Health Ministry in Jerusalem to explain how the firm manufactures carbaryl, a pesticide also produced at the Union Carbide plant in India where the gas leak occurred.

Product Does Not Have Same Component

The Israeli product is called ravion and Sheike Pikarsky, deputy director of Makhteshim Chemical, said the company does not use methyl isocyanate to make it.

Pikarsky told the Post: "We have no connection with Union Carbide and we don't have the same component... We have a product similar to (Union Carbide's) savin, but it is made using a different process."

Makhteshim's ravion is made with phosgen and chlorine, and has been manufactured in Ramat Hovav some 12 kilometers south of Beersheba for four years, under strict safety rules. There have been no malfunctions, and the management is confident that its safeguards are sufficient. (By Hugh Orgel)

SHAMIR AND SHULTZ TO MEET PRIVATELY IN N.Y. FOR BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Dec. 9 (JTA) -- Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Secretary of State George Shultz will meet privately for bilateral discussions here today after both receive honorary doctorates from Yeshiva University at a convocation late this afternoon at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel. Both men are scheduled to speak.

Shamir will also deliver a major address at Yeshiva University's annual dinner tonight. The Israeli Foreign Minister, who is also Deputy Premier, arrived in New York Friday. Over the weekend he had meetings with Minister of Commerce and Industry Ariel Sharon and Minister of Science and Development Gideon Patt, both of whom are in New York.

Shamir is scheduled to fly to Panama tomorrow for a three-day official visit, the first ever to that Central American country by an Israeli Foreign Minister. He will follow that by a three-day official visit to Venezuela, returning to New York next Sunday, December 16. On Monday, December 17, Shamir will address the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations in New York before returning to Israel.

SPECIAL INTERVIEW

TZUR: ISRAEL MUST DEMAND THAT SOVIET JEWISH EMIGRATION BE PART OF U.S. SOVIET TALKS ON RENEWAL OF DETENTE
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 9 (JTA) -- Yaacov Tzur, the Minister of Immigration and Absorption, believes that Israel must demand that freedom of exit for Soviet Jews be part of any negotiations between the United States and the Soviet Union for the renewal of detente.

In a special interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Tzur said the Soviets themselves see

the Jewish problem as part of their overall relations with the West and if Soviet Jews are to be helped, cognizance must be taken of this view in talks between the superpowers.

Tzur flatly rejected the contention of Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko that every Russian Jew who wanted to emigrate has done so. Gromyko made that argument at his meeting with Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir at the United Nations General Assembly in New York in September.

"This is simply untrue," Tzur declared. "Out of the 600,000 affidavits which have been submitted, there are still 400,000 Jews who have not received a favorable response."

Cites Steady Decline Of Emigration

Tzur cited the steady decline of Soviet Jewish emigration since 1980. In that year, some 21,000 Jews left. In 1981, the number was 9,400; in 1982, 2,600; in 1983 only 1,300. And this year, only a few hundred Jews were able to leave.

Tzur blamed the high drop-out rate among Soviet Jewish emigres for the "closing of the gates." He said when Jews do not come to Israel, they lose the basis of repatriation. The Absorption Minister said HIAS and the U.S. government were responsible because they give the emigres refugee status, whereas they were allowed to leave the Soviet Union on the basis of reuniting with their families in Israel.

But Tzur conceded that it would be difficult to convince HIAS and the U.S. to withhold assistance to the emigres. "After all, one must admit that the exit of Soviet Jews anywhere is a positive development because anywhere else they will be able to live better," he said.

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- Premier Shimon Peres, warmly congratulated by both Labor and Likud members of the unity Cabinet Sunday on the success of his visit to France, informed the Orthodox ministers in particular that during this three-day stay in Paris, all meals were kosher, including his lunch with President Francois Mitterrand -- the first time kosher food was served in the Elysee Palace. He also said that on Friday night he walked for nearly a half hour for a visit with Simone Signoret, the French film actress who is Jewish.

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- The Association of Social Workers has warned Prisons Commissioner Moshe Wertheimer -- and his boss, Police Minister Haim Barlev -- that they had better ready cells for 900 more prisoners in the coming year if proposed cuts in social services are implemented. According to the social workers, the cuts would force judges to send more offenders to jail rather than put them on probation.

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- The Cabinet, overriding protests from the religious parties, has voted to extend daylight saving time next year on a permanent basis as an economic measure. It will be in effect from April 13, 1985 to September 14 and is expected to yield a saving in energy of some \$3.5 million. The move, introduced as an experiment last year, was opposed by Orthodox Jews who will have to rise an hour earlier for their morning prayers.

RABBIS AMONG WARRIORS

By Albert W. Bloom
(Sixth in an Eight-Part Series)

RAMSTEIN, West Germany, Dec. 9 (JTA)—There is only one U.S. Air Force Jewish chaplain in Germany, a specialist in Jewish mysticism—and he is Capt. Morris Faierstein, 36, of Brooklyn, born in Orebro, Sweden.

He is a child of the Holocaust, with a different view of that era than one finds in the Jewish community "at home" in America. Chaplain Faierstein's "congregation" covers half of West Germany and Holland, with some of his "visitations" to U.S. Air Force stations as far away as Norway, covering 300 to 400 military personnel and families.

His official endorsement for his services in the military chaplaincy is from JWB Commission on Jewish Chaplaincy (JWB-CJC). He received his rabbinical training at the Jewish Theological Seminary (Conservative). Yet, some of his studies included training at the Aitz Chaim Yeshiva in Jerusalem, an outstanding Orthodox institution where he received "smicha" (ordination).

JWB-CJC Fills Unique Role for American Jewry

JWB-CJC is the prime agency directly charged with the recruitment and official endorsement of all U.S. Jewish military and VA chaplains—Conservative, Orthodox, Reform—by the U.S. Department of Defense, a unique role in the American Jewish community. Thus, JWB-CJC is an ongoing agency pathfinder for ways to bring all wings of Judaism together, working in harmony to solve problems and to develop a national posture for the American Jewish community's representation in the U.S. military.

Chaplain Faierstein is but one example of the broad-scale type of personality JWB-CJC brings Jewish chaplaincy—Rabbis among Warriors. The military chaplaincy goes back to formal recognition by the Continental Congress in 1775.

Today, in the age of faster-than-sound aircraft, missiles and nucleonics, the chaplain is a symbol of "Jewish identity" and "human identity" in the quest for Shalom, Peace—"the oldest wish and the newest hope."

These new times bring new challenges to the U.S. armed forces stationed in Europe to preserve peace, which they have done for nearly 40 years.

The chaplain is a counselor for all servicemen, regardless of creed, in addition to his own faith "congregation." Each chaplain has to wrestle, like Jacob with the angel in the Bible, with the problem: today's problem centers on how to serve God and country in an age when Air Force, Army and Navy are often further and further from the new-compact battlefield, reached by devastating "push-button" weapons that may be operated by remote control.

In the military, theater-of-operations personal problems and those vast impersonal problems may merge and fall onto the chaplain's lap. The chaplain has to be more than ready. The Jewish chaplain may expect to travel great distances regularly to seek out his scattered flock of Jewish servicemen and women and their dependents, who may be with them in today's military community overseas, as well as U.S. civilians with the military.

USAFE Responsible for 131,000 Military and Civilians

There are about 131,000 individuals, military and civilian (the civilians outnumber the military), for whom the U.S. Air Force in Europe is responsible—in addition to the Air Force primary tactical and strategic missions.

Ramstein here, 50 miles from the French border, is the headquarters of Gen. Charles A. Donnelly, commander in chief of U.S. Air Forces, Europe (USAFE). A huge underground operations center is piled over with rocks, "self-sealing insurance" against possible bombing or nuclear strike, they say.

It is in this human and military context that Chaplain Faierstein operates, the lone Jewish chaplain in a vast military complex.

While Chaplain Faierstein's congregation is spread far, there is a local instructional program for 25 children in the Ramstein area; and a dozen or more adults in an educational program on Tuesday nights, as well as religious services with the help of military volunteer "lay leaders." The education programs vary from Jewish history courses to studies on the "parashah hashavua," weekly readings from the Torah and the Prophets.

Chaplain Alston R. Chace, a colonel, an Episcopalian and command chaplain of USAFE, with "39 bases from England to Turkey," understands Jewish concerns in the military.

"We must make Christian chaplains more aware of the needs of our Jewish chaplains and Jewish personnel," he said firmly.

Problems Like Non-Denominational Prayers Crop Up

Sometimes problems crop up. Such as the use of non-denominational prayers, which are more proper than those of a specific creed, at public meetings. Also, attitudes of some military and hospital authorities toward such basic needs as "brit milah," ritual circumcision of Jewish male children eight days after birth.

As a result, an educational and instructional order was sent out this summer by USAFE to all medical facilities, entitled "Circumcision of Newborn Males for Religious Reasons." It notes with awareness born of (chaplaincy) wisdom:

"While routine circumcision of newborn males is no longer recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics, circumcision for religious reasons is not considered routine.

"For example, circumcision of Jewish males is performed on the eighth day of life. The presence of parents and rabbi during the circumcision as well as performing of the circumcision on the eighth day are extremely important tenets of the Jewish faith.

"All personnel involved in obstetrical and newborn care must be sensitive to these beliefs. Every consideration must be given to performance of ritual circumcision (unless there is definite medical contraindication) as is directed by the parents' religious beliefs, even when this creates minor inconveniences for hospital staffs . . ."

A skilled pediatrician helps, too, in a big way. Capt. Phil Rogers (wife Abbie; son Matthew, 2), Jewish pediatrician (who also doubles as a volunteer lay leader in Chaplain Faierstein's organized community) does the "brit" surgeries. This is an unusual specialty among pediatricians in the U.S. military, but is "problem-solving" for a chaplain like Rabbi Faierstein. Thus is safeguarded a basic right (and rite) of Judaism in the armed forces.

Two other interesting volunteer lay leaders at Ramstein Air Base are Maj. Marc J. Dinerstein, 36, of New Haven, Conn., and his wife Janice, a convert to Judaism. Janice teaches in the religious school. He is director of operations of Detachment 6 of the First Space Wing. Maj. Dinerstein is a futurist, a kind of "star wars" specialist. The eavens are his Jewish faith and his military profession. In the next five years, he expects a "unified" military space service for the Air Force, like the Marines for the Navy.

Chaplain Faierstein's Wife Is a Staff Sergeant

Chaplain Faierstein, whose superiors recognize his learning and often comment on "his good sense of humor," is also a warm host in his home, where he grinds his own coffee. His artistic wife, Ruth Anne, of Pensacola, Fla., is a staff sergeant whose skill is radio technology. Outside, there may be some question of who gives the commands, but none inside.

But Chaplain Faierstein is serious about Jewishness to his Air Force congregation. "Site visitations are important. People far away feel forgotten if no one shows an interest. A visitation from the chaplain shows them that somebody cares." Being near the French border, he found that the French Army provides Kosher C-rations; he'd like the U.S. to do so, too.

Being in the Germany of the Holocaust does not disturb him now, though he is a child of survivors.

"This is a different Germany," due to the generational changes, he asserts.

"Sometimes I think the American Jewish community has appropriated the Holocaust for its own ends—using it either to get people to remain Jewish or for fundraising.

Chaplain's Parents Both Holocaust Survivors

"My parents are both Holocaust survivors. I have my obsession not with the Holocaust but with the East European Jewry, who were destroyed and their way of life destroyed. What about this civilization, this Eastern culture, other than 'Fiddler on the Roof'? Who really cares?"

"There is more overt anti-Semitism in walking down some streets in New York than on the streets of West Germany today.

"My endeavor is, in a scholarly way, to build a monument to East European life and culture . . . to a world destroyed."

As for the Holocaust, he says, "the history of mysticism somewhat simplistically makes the statement:

"Those who know, don't speak about it; and those who speak about it, don't know."

He added: "As for me, when you are close to something, you have a different perspective than when you are far from it."

Next: Riding the sea circuit