

IDF SPEEDING UP ITS WITHDRAWAL

TEL AVIV, April 8 (JTA) -- Israel Radio said today that the Israel Defense Force is speeding up its withdrawal from the western sector of the south Lebanon front, following the winding up of the demolition of the Ansar Prison camp.

It said that Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Moshe Levy will be ready to inform Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin shortly that the third and final stage of the pullback -- from the Jebel Barukh mountain top area and the eastern line facing the Syrians -- can be started by the end of this month.

With the straightening of the line following the evacuation of the Ansar camp, with the freeing of some inmates and the transfer to a new camp inside Israel of the others, the IDF can now abandon a number of trouble spots, such as the town of Nabatiya, Ansar village and others north of the Litani River, which will form the temporary line until the final pullback to the international border.

MKS MULLING STAR WARS RESEARCH PARTICIPATION
 By David Landau

JERUSALEM, April 8 (JTA) -- Leading Knesset members have called for exhaustive parliamentary discussions before Israel decides how to respond to Washington's invitation to participate in star wars research. Victor Shemtov (Mapam), acting chairman of the Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, yesterday suggested a full debate in that committee. Earlier, Shevach Weiss (Labor) urged discussion in the plenary.

The invitation from U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger to Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin reached Israel Friday. President Reagan had said publicly he would offer the NATO countries, Japan, Australia and Israel a chance to join in the research. The Foreign Ministry said a reply would be sent as soon as possible.

Plainly, the high-level consultations on the American invitation will focus not only on the scientific aspects but also on possible political repercussions, given the Soviet Union's intense sensitivity to star wars planning.

Haaretz reported yesterday that in three Israeli universities and several high-tech industries research work was underway which could be of relevance to the star wars program. The paper mentioned Haifa Technion, the Weizmann Institute, and Tel Aviv University. The paper noted, too, that some space-related work, funded by the U.S., has been done in these institutions for years.

POPE CONDEMNS NAZI ATROCITIES

ROME, April 8 (JTA) -- Pope John Paul yesterday assailed Nazism as "a mad imperialist ideology" and condemned the atrocities that it bred, including the killings of the Jewish people who were "condemned to extermination."

In an Easter message delivered to more than 200,000 persons gathered in St. Peter's Square, the Pope invoked the 40th anniversary of the conclusion

of World War II. He praised the men and women in each country who offered their lives in sacrifice for the right cause, the cause of the dignity of the human person.

"They faced death as defenseless victims, offered in Holocaust, or defending with their arms the free way to life," the Pope said. "They fought not to answer violence with violence or hatred with hatred but to affirm a right and a freedom for themselves and others, also for the children of those who were then the oppressors."

"For more than five years," the Pope added, "humanity had lived a horrendous experience. Tens of millions of people massacred, on the battlefronts, cities razed, slaughter in the air and on the sea, populations ruined by hunger and privations."

In addition, he said, "other tens of millions of human beings" were "decimated and destroyed in the concentration camps." He said, "The Jewish people" were "condemned to extermination." The Pope also sent a Passover greeting in Hebrew to the Jewish people.

**Arms Cache Found In Terrorist Hideout:
GUN BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN USED TO
KILL AN ISRAELI AND U.S. DIPLOMAT
IS DISCOVERED BY FRENCH POLICE**
 By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, April 8 (JTA) -- The French police have discovered the gun they believed was used to kill Israeli Diplomat Yaakov Barsimantov and American deputy military attache Col. Charles Ray in 1982.

The gun, a Czech-made pistol, was part of an arms cache found in a terrorist hideaway used by the Armed Lebanese Revolutionary factions, a Marxist group with close links with similar organizations in West Germany, Belgium, Italy and France.

Ray was gunned down outside his home on January 18, 1982, while Barsimantov, a second secretary at the Israel Embassy, was shot by a woman terrorist outside the lobby of his residence on April 2, 1982.

The spectacular discovery of the hideout, considered a major breakthrough in the fight against terrorism, followed the arrest last October of a man, Georges Ibrahim Abdullah, considered to be the head of the gang. Police found on Abdullah a notebook which led them to a Swiss bank account from which rent was paid for a Paris apartment.

Last week, police swooped down on the apartment in the northwest of Paris and found 20 kilograms of explosives, several detonators, submachineguns and pistols. A routine examination of the weapons led to the identification of the pistol believed to have been used to kill the two diplomats.

Abdullah was arrested after the Italian border police last August found seven kilograms of explosives hidden in the suitcase of a Lebanese, Ahmed El Mansuri, travelling from Yugoslavia to Rome aboard the Trans-Orient express train.

The explosives were of the same type which had been used to blow up the Rue Copernic Synagogue in Paris in 1980 killing four and injuring 20 people. A young woman, Josephine Abdu Sarkis, believed to be the woman terrorist who killed Barsimantov, was arrested initially and is held in Ostia.

FOREIGN MINISTRY FOILS SCHEDULED VISIT BY MK DELEGATION TO CISKEI By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, April 8 (JTA) -- The Foreign Ministry appears to have foiled a scheduled visit by a delegation of Knesset members and two other Israeli political figures to the opening of the Parliament in Ciskei, "a homeland" established for Blacks by the South African government but not officially recognized by Israel.

Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir in the past has ordered Israeli officials not to meet with visiting Ciskeians, despite the relatively large number of Israelis who have business interests there. There is concern here that ties with that country -- which is not recognized by the majority of the world's nations -- would jeopardize efforts to improve relations with Black Africa.

Most members of the delegation have already announced they would cancel their trip. Likud MK Micha Reiser said he was sorry to give up the trip but was convinced by the arguments of the Foreign Ministry that the visit would be contrary to the interests of the state.

However, Likud MK and Mayor of Afula Ovadia Eli said that at this stage he intended to go to Ciskei since there was a great measure of hypocrisy regarding relations with South Africa, since Israel was maintaining strong ties with the Pretoria government.

Beside Reiser and Eli, other members of the would be delegation are Alignment MKs Binyamin Ben-Eliezer and Yitzhak Peretz, Eli Kulas, David Magen, Haim Kaufman, Amal Nasser A-Din, Yehoshua Matza, of Likud as well as Yigal Griffl, the Deputy Mayor of Tel Aviv (Herut) and Micha Yinon, chairman of the Broadcasting Authority (NRP), and NRP MK Avner Shaki.

According to one estimate, there are some 11 Israeli companies involved in business there. Yediot Achronot reported Sunday that these include the Gibor Textile Company, the computer company Degem Systems, and the Fashion company Indian Head, which is soon to open a plant there.

SHAMIR REJECTS 'TRAP' OF PEACE IN EXCHANGE FOR TERRITORY FORMULA By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, April 8 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir yesterday rejected what he termed the "dangerous trap" embodied in the "peace in exchange for territory" formula, saying, "No Jew has the right to give up or bargain over any part of Israel."

"This formula is a trap designed to return us to the strangling lines of 1967, and we shall never return to that," Shamir declared. "If any government in Israel goes out of its mind and agrees to give up territories for peace, there is no guarantee for peace. A smashed fragmented Israel will be easy prey to those who want to eliminate it."

Shamir addressed the Knesset "West Bank and Gaza Strip Lobby" at a meeting of Central Committees of political parties which support Jewish settlement in the occupied territories. The meeting was attended by some 800 members of the Likud, Tehiya, Marhasha and other parties and West Bank settlement activists held at Kfar Hamaccabiah.

Also addressing the Knesset lobby meeting was Minister of Commerce and Industry Ariel Sharon and Housing Minister and Deputy Premier David Levy. Sharon came out strongly in support for Jewish settlement around all Arab towns and concentrations in the West Bank. He rejected peace negotiations with Jordan under present circumstances.

He warned against the "legitimization" of the Palestine Liberation Organization, complaining that Israel did not speak out clearly enough about its policy for Judea, Samaria and Gaza, and talks of peace with Jordan meant recognition of PLO rights. He said King Hussein of Jordan does not act alone, but as an emissary for PLO chief Yasir Arafat.

Appealing for massive West Bank settlement, Sharon declared: "We must not leave in Judea and Samaria a single concentration of Arab population without putting in its midst and around it a Jewish settlement. We don't need anybody's permission. We're in the government."

Differentiates Between The Camps

Levy, in his address, stressed the difference between the "national camp" loyal to the land of Israel and to defending it, and the "other camp." He said, "This camp (the national camp) will prevent giving away parts of Israel to a foreign rule. There are those who believe that suggesting this will bring us closer to so-called peace. The enemy rejects and they offer again. We shall not allow this to happen."

Levy said that this year West Bank settlement exceeded 50,000 people and promised that his ministry will continue the building and road construction process there, creating a direct road between the coastal plain and the Jordan Valley. The convention was the first meeting of its kind to be organized by the Knesset lobby in support of settlements in the West Bank.

LATE NEWS STORY

BODY OF ISRAELI SOLDIER BRUTALLY MURDERED FOUND IN JUDEAN MOUNTAINS By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, April 8 (JTA) -- The body of a soldier brutally murdered near Tel Aviv yesterday was located today by Israeli authorities.

Sgt. Akiva She'Altiel, 21, of Rosh Ha'ayin, was found today in a wadi near a road on the western slopes of the Judean mountains. The victim's hands were cuffed, his face and head bruised and a rope tightened around his neck. The body was reportedly spotted by local Arab villagers yesterday and reported to authorities today.

Authorities said the sergeant apparently left his army base, east of Ben Gurion Airport, and was hitchhiking when the driver of an unidentified vehicle stopped and offered him a ride. The soldier was unarmed, which is permitted for military personnel in Israel proper.

Authorities said it appeared that the vehicle immediately left the road and the occupants attacked the sergeant, beating his face and head with a sharp object, then tied a rope around his neck, strangling him. Security forces immediately started a wide search in nearby villages for clues that might lead them to the murderers.

FOCUS ON ISSUES

CARTER CONTINUES TO BE INVOLVED
IN THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, April 8 (JTA) —Former President Jimmy Carter, whose major personal achievement in office was the part he played in helping bring about the Camp David accords and the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, has continued to be involved with the Mideast peace process since leaving the Presidency.

But his interest in the Middle East goes back long before his 1976 election to the White House. Writing about his first visit to Israel in 1973 in his new book, "The Blood of Abraham" (Boston, Houghton Mifflin, 257 pages, \$15.95), Carter explains:

"For me there is no way to approach or enter Israel without thinking first about the Bible and the history of the land and its people. The names and images have long been an integral part of my life as a Christian, but many of them took on a new and entirely different significance when I became President of the United States and joined in life-or-death negotiations to resolve some of the twentieth century's problems.

"It is rare indeed to find the distant past so intertwined with the immediate present, not just for the historians and theologians in their classrooms and studies but for statesmen in the halls of government and military commanders on the field of battle."

Prescription For Mideast Peace

In "The Blood of Abraham" Carter seeks to offer his own prescriptions for achieving peace in the Mideast. Much of the book is based on the former President's visit in 1983 to Israel, Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Lebanon and his talks with people there and with Palestinians both in the West Bank and in Arab countries.

But he also provides the historical background of each country as well as the region as a whole and stresses that Jews, Christians and Moslems are all spiritual descendants of the Hebrew patriarch Abraham.

Process Came To A 'Screaming Halt' Under Reagan

Carter charges that the peace process he began came "to a screaming halt" under President Reagan who he said "has shown little interest in diplomacy as a means of resolving disputes" and instead prefers "the threat or use of American military force."

While Carter does not say so directly, he obviously believes the Reagan's Administration's present position of waiting for the Arabs to come up with a negotiating partner for Israel before the U.S. again becomes directly involved is wrong. Throughout the book he continuously stresses that the U.S. must provide the initiative for peace.

"Antagonists cannot be expected to take the initiative," he writes. "In the Middle East, hatred and distrust are too ingrained and pride is too great for any of the disputing parties to make concessions and invitations that they know will almost inevitably be rejected."

Naturally enough, Carter believes that the best way to proceed would be through the process outlined in the Camp David accords to provide "full autonomy" for the Palestinians, eventually leading to self-determination perhaps in confederation with Jordan.

But in a recent interview, Carter noted that the Camp David process might not be acceptable to King

Hussein of Jordan and said it was "my preference" that negotiations be based on Reagan's September 1, 1982 initiative. However, in outlining "basic requirements" for negotiations in his book, Carter said all conditions should be dropped, including the dismantling of Israeli settlements, the Camp David accords, United Nations Resolutions 242 and 338, the Reagan initiative and the Fez declaration; and objections to the presence of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Carter believes the U.S. should talk to the PLO which he said would not violate its commitment to Israel not to recognize nor negotiate with it. He believes that conditions are good now for negotiations because of "tremendous amount of common ground" in positions by Israel, some Arab governments and Palestinians.

Despite the belief of some American Jews at the end of Carter's presidency that he was anti-Israel, his book shows that he is not. He demonstrates an understanding of the history of the Jewish people and of the Holocaust and what the State of Israel means to Jews and shows an appreciation for Israel's vibrant democracy.

Appears To Blame Israel

But he does appear to blame Israel, in part, for the failure of progress in Mideast talks. "An Israeli government has yet to demonstrate how it might evolve a peaceful and just coexistence of the Palestinians and the Jews."

During a recent television interview, Carter denied a suggestion in a Washington Post review of his book that he had "soured" on Israel after the Camp David accords. The former President said that although he believed that Premier Menachem Begin had broken a promise to freeze settlements, he was able to work with Begin later in achieving the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty.

Carter is not naive about the Arabs, but he appears willing to overlook their positions. He said that during his 1983 visit he found that the Palestinians in the West Bank wanted an end to what they considered Israeli injustices and sought self-determination but supported negotiations, while those outside the West Bank considered Israel their mortal enemy.

But he stresses that the U.S. must recognize that "the PLO, with Yasir Arafat as its elected leader, is the entity responsible for the political future of the Palestinians and for negotiations to secure their rights; no one else can assume these functions without specific authorization from the PLO."

At the same time, Carter warns that the PLO is heading for a dead end if it continues its policy of violence, predicting even its Arab supporters will tire of them.

View Of Syria

The former President concedes that Syria cannot be brought into negotiations for the present, but he does not believe that they can wreck the talks if the U.S. is actively involved. He believes that eventually Syria would be brought into negotiations for a comprehensive solution and he has faith that President Hafez Assad would keep any agreement he makes.

Like the present Administration, Carter feels that King Hussein is the man best able to negotiate with Israel and believes that Saudi Arabia can be cautiously helpful. Yet, in almost an aside, Carter states that the Saudis believe that no non-Moslim country has any right to any part of Palestine and that like the

Crusaders, Israel will disappear. Carter is trying to present an American policy of "even-handedness." "The Arabs must recognize the reality that is Israel, just as the Israelis must acknowledge Palestinian claims to civic equality and their right to express themselves freely in a portion of their territorial homeland," he writes.

But an "even-handed" U.S. policy has always meant pressure on Israel. Israel is not without faults, but to criticize Israel for a lack of progress in the peace process is meaningless until there is an Arab partner, like Egypt, ready to engage in direct negotiations with the Jewish State. Carter knows from his own experience that when this happens even an ultra-nationalist like Begin will make concessions in return for real peace.

SYNAGOGUE SAFE YIELDS RITUAL RICHES By Ben Gallob

NEW YORK, April 8 (JTA) -- More than a dozen silver Torah scroll ornaments, revealed when professional safecrackers opened a huge safe in the basement of the once-flourishing Eldridge Street Synagogue on Manhattan's Lower East Side, may be kept for use by congregants when the 98-year-old synagogue is restored, Betty Sandler, secretary of the Eldridge Street Project, said today.

She told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that two appraisal experts from Sotheby's and Christies, present when two of the four safes in the synagogue basement were drilled and hammered open last Thursday in a three-hour operation, had appraised the ritual objects as worth between \$30,000 and \$40,000 at auction but that the congregational board would decide on their disposition. Sandler added that the board, which meets regularly, would discuss the disposition of the objects shortly.

She listed the ritual objects found in the largest of four safes, which still had handles which were immovable, as including a Torah crown with gold filigree; three pairs of Torah finials; four breast plates, with gold filigree; six pointers, two sterling silver, two gold and two ivory; a spice box; and a large brass Chanukah menorah.

The safes fell into disuse after the departure of Jews from the area and had not been opened for some 40 years.

The smaller of the two large safes was found to contain dozens of books. These included a 150-year-old Tractate from the Talmud, printed in Warsaw, and a book on the Zohar, published in Grodno.

Restoration Project of Historic Jewish Area

Restoration of the synagogue was described as the centerpiece of the Eldridge Street Project created to develop and maintain a historic Jewish area and to explore and interpret the American Jewish experience on the Lower East Side.

The first year of the project in 1983-84 was focused on repairs to the synagogue building which was in imminent danger of collapse. The project received funds from the New York State Department of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation; the United Jewish Appeal-Federation; the Landmark Conservancy; and a gift from the Lower East Side Merchants Association.

There is a Bet Medrash (house of study) in the basement, where services are conducted whenever a minyan of the required 10 men can be assembled. The upstairs sanctuary has been abandoned since the early 1930's.

The Eldridge project has started a "Heritage Trail" on the Lower East Side, a walking tour of old structures known to be important and including those Jewish businesses and cultural institutions remaining on the Lower East Side.

KATZIR NAMED ONE OF FIRST TWO RECIPIENTS OF THE JAPAN PRIZE By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, April 8 (JTA) -- Prof. Ephraim Katchalski-Katzir, noted Weizmann Institute of Science scientist and one of its founding members, has been named one of the two first recipients of the Japan Prize in Biotechnology, to be awarded in Tokyo on April 20.

The recently established 50 million Yen (approximately \$200,000) prize honors researchers who have made original contributions to science "and have thereby advanced human peace and prosperity."

Kisaburo Yokota, executive director of the Science and Technology Foundation of Japan, says it is hoped that the Japan Prize will ultimately equal the Nobel Prize in stature.

In addition to his ranking position at the Weizmann Institute, Katchalski-Katzir, who served as Israel's fourth President from 1973 to 1978, heads the Biotechnology Center at Tel Aviv University.

His brother, Aharon, also one of Israel's leading scientists, was murdered in an attack by a group of Japanese Red Army terrorists working for the PLO at Ben Gurion Airport in 1972, for which Kozo Okamoto, the only attacker not killed on the spot at the time, is now serving a life sentence.

Katchalski-Katzir's world-acknowledged work on amino acid polymers and enzymes has involved both pure and applied research which have facilitated understanding the genetic code and helped the production of industrial and medical processes and items.

ENVOY SAYS SOUTH AFRICA'S TRADE WITH BLACK AFRICA GREATER THAN WITH ISRAEL

NEW YORK, April 8 (JTA) -- Israel's trade with South Africa has been "vastly overrated and exaggerated," according to Ambassador Abe Hoppenstein, Consul-General of South Africa in New York. He told the Associates of the American Friends of Tel Aviv University at the group's monthly forum this week that trade between Jerusalem and Johannesburg amounted to only \$250 million in 1984. He said this represented "one-half of one percent of Israel's foreign trade and less than one-quarter of one percent of South Africa's trade with other nations."

He added: "Black African countries currently have 12 times more trade with South Africa than Israel does, and of course such countries as Great Britain, France, West Germany and the United States have huge volumes of trade with us."

Hoppenstein, who held key leadership posts with the South African Board of Jewish Deputies, the country's central Jewish communal organization, and the South African Zionist Federation, described the rich communal life of South African Jewry and its strong ties to Israel.

"Sixty percent of our country's Jewish youngsters attend Hebrew day schools and 85 percent of South African Jews have visited Israel at least once," he said. Noting that the South African Jewish community had consistently recorded the highest per capita giving to Israeli causes -- "without benefit of tax deductions" -- Hoppenstein declared: "Every one of South Africa's 120,000 Jews is a Zionist."