

Vol. 63 - 68th Year

Wednesday, July 3, 1985

No. 127

**SHULTZ SENDS PERES LETTER PRAISING ISRAEL FOR 'COOPERATION' SHOWN DURING BEIRUT HOSTAGE CRISIS**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, July 2 (JTA) — Premier Shimon Peres received a letter from Secretary of State George Shultz today praising Israel for its "cooperation" and "solidarity" with the U.S. during the Beirut hostage crisis.

The letter was not immediately made public. Sources here said Shultz expressed America's gratitude for Israel's "strong support" while Washington "worked for the release of the hostages" who were freed last Sunday after 17 days as captives of Shiite Moslems in Beirut. According to the sources, Shultz wrote that the cooperation between the two countries "defied the attempts of those who would divide us" and "contributed greatly to the resolution of the situation."

The Secretary of State added that the episode was a "lesson to all nations that refusal to submit to terrorists' threats and demands" is the best guarantee of security.

It was not clear from Shultz's letter whether the "cooperation" he hailed referred to Israel's postponement of the release of the 750 Shiite prisoners it holds for the duration of the hostage crisis, or its commitment to release them once the crisis was over.

Israel has consistently echoed the Reagan Administration's assertion that no deal was made with the terrorists. Israel says the phased release of the Shiite prisoners from the Atlit detention camp was planned long before Shiite terrorists hijacked TWA Flight 847 on June 14 and subsequently held 39 of its passengers and officers hostage.

Israeli officials confirmed today that 300 of the Shiite detainees will be freed as early as tomorrow and the rest would be released in the next few weeks, depending on the security situation in south Lebanon.

**TRIAL ORDERED FOR LEADER OF GROUP CONNECTED WITH MURDER OF ISRAELI**

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, July 2 (JTA) — A suspected leader of a Lebanese terrorist group was ordered to stand trial for complicity in the murder of Israeli diplomat Yaakov Barsimantov who was gunned down outside his apartment building in a fashionable section of Paris on April 3, 1982.

The order, by a French judge yesterday, followed identification of the murder weapon in a cache of arms found at the hideout of "The Lebanese Armed Revolutionary Faction" one of whose suspected leaders, George Ibrahim Abdullah, has been in custody since his arrest in Lyon last October.

Police said the weapon, a Czech-made 7.65 mm. CZ-70 pistol, was the same used to murder Lt. Col. Charles Ray, Deputy Military Attache at the U.S. Embassy here on January 18, 1982. It was also used, police said in the attempted murders of two other American diplomats, Ambassador Christian Chapman who was not injured and the U.S. Consul General in Strasbourg, Robert Homme, who was seriously wounded on March 26, 1984.

Abdullah was arrested in Lyon following the interrogation by Italian police of two Lebanese caught trying to smuggle explosives into Italy from Yugoslavia.

He is not the actual killer of Barsimantov. According to eyewitness accounts, the assassin was a young woman. She was chased by the Israeli diplomat's teen-aged son to a subway entrance where she threatened him at gunpoint and escaped.

**KNESSET, BY 70-17 VOTE, BACKS GOVERNMENT'S EMERGENCY ECONOMIC PLAN**

JERUSALEM, July 2 (JTA) — The Knesset, under strict coalition discipline, handed Premier Shimon Peres and Finance Minister Yitzhak Modai a substantial victory today when it voted 70-17 to approve the emergency economic program adopted by a Cabinet majority yesterday. There were three abstentions.

All but one of the seven Likud ministers who opposed the austerity program during the 20-hour marathon Cabinet session dutifully voted for it today. The exception was Deputy Premier and Housing Minister David Levy, who absented himself from the chamber during the vote.

Supporting votes were cast by Minister of Commerce Ariel Sharon, Labor Minister Moshe Katzav and Minister-Without-Portfolio Moshe Arens, among others. Arens and Katzav explained to the Likud Knesset faction before the vote that while they are critical of elements of the economic program, they were duty-bound as Cabinet members to back the government.

Rank-and-file coalition dissidents included Yisrael Kessar, a Labor MK who is Secretary General of Histadrut and Yaacov Shammai, leader of Likud's minority faction in Histadrut. Both were absent during the vote. Likud MK David Magen voted against the government, triggering demands from both major parties that he be disciplined for breaching coalition unity. Magen is politically close to Sharon.

Modai, who addressed the convention of the American Red Magen David for Israel (ARMDI) here later in the day, disclosed that talks would begin tomorrow between government and Histadrut leaders over compensation for wage-earners. Modai's emergency program calls for reduced cost-of-living increments.

**ONE-DAY STRIKE SHUTS DOWN ISRAEL**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, July 2 (JTA) — A one-day general strike halted virtually all business, commercial and productive activity in Israel today and services were reduced to a bare minimum. Histadrut, which ordered the strike to protest the emergency economic program adopted by the unity coalition Cabinet yesterday, estimated that 1.5 million people, 90 percent of the country's workforce, were off the job.

The trade union federation preferred to call the mass walkout a 24-hour "work stoppage". Haim Haberfeld, head of Histadrut's trades union department, and other officials warned that there would be "selective strike action" by individual unions after the 24 hours unless the government was prepared to negotiate over reduced cost-of-living allowances and a three month wage freeze which the Finance Ministry considers essential elements of its program.

In defiance of the program, Histadrut-owned business and industrial enterprises announced they would pay the full cost-of-living allowance for the month of June which amounts to 80 percent of the monthly rise of the consumer price index. Union leaders urged workers in non-Histadrut enterprises to demand full payment from their employers. Some of the Union leaders called for mass demonstrations if there is no response by the government to today's peaceful walkout.

Histadrut opposes the government's economic program on grounds that it will erode real wages by 30 percent, creating severe hardships for working people but only minor inconvenience for the self-employed and wealthy. Histadrut was also furious that the government adopted the program without negotiations or consultations with the trade union federation and is enforcing it under emergency regulations that are a hold-over from the British Mandate regime, without prior debate in the Knesset.

#### Histadrut Calls Measures Illegal

According to Histadrut, the measures and the way they are being enforced are illegal. The government edicts violate the wage-price freeze package deal the government signed last February with Histadrut and the employers and manufacturers associations which has not yet expired, the trade union officials contend.

The strike, or "walkout" is also calculated to demonstrate trade union power in a country currently headed by a Labor Prime Minister. Whether or not it is indeed 90 percent effective as Histadrut contends, the country was strangely quiet today.

Histadrut exempted public transportation from the strike. Buses sped through empty streets where almost all shops and offices were closed. Ben Gurion Airport shut down at 10 a.m. local time, four hours after the walkout officially started. The delay was to allow foreign airlines to advance their flights and clear Israeli airspace early in the day. There was no incoming traffic. El Al, the national airline, claimed it was operating normally.

#### Work Stoppage Extensive

The seaports — mainly Haifa, Ashdod and Eilat — were closed and the loading and discharge of cargoes was suspended for the 24-hour period. Supermarkets and food chains did not open this morning, but neighborhood "mom and pop" groceries kept open. They were short of bread and milk however because the dairies and bakeries were shut down.

Hospitals and clinics continued to function with skeleton staffs on a restricted Sabbath basis. Histadrut instructed its members to ignore back-to-work orders issued by labor courts that went beyond minimal essential services.

No newspapers were published today. Radio and television were blacked-out except for brief hourly news bulletins. Electric power shortages were reported in some parts of the country. Employees of the Israel Electric Corp. observed the strike. They left the generators running, but at the low nighttime rate when demand is minimal.

The only violence directly linked to the government's economic program occurred in a slum neighborhood in Jerusalem last night, well before the strike deadline. Twenty people were arrested and four border policemen were injured in a scuffle that developed when the police knocked down a barricade of burning tires that was blocking a road.

Jerusalem police warned today that any recurrence of these incidents would be dealt with severely.

#### JEWISH GROUPS HAIL SUPREME COURT DECISION ON PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS

By Kevin Freeman

NEW YORK, July 2 (JTA) — The Supreme Court's rulings yesterday striking down as unconstitutional programs in New York and Michigan involving the use of government funds and public school teachers to provide instruction on parochial school premises was hailed today by American Jewish organizations here.

While they indicated support for the Court's decision — viewed widely as a reaffirmation of the Court's support for the separation of church and state — there was widespread belief that the decisions would in no way hinder the ability of students in parochial schools, including yeshivas, to obtain proper remedial instruction.

"There's no doubt that the curtailment of services as outlined in the Supreme Court's decisions ... will have a negative effect on Jewish day schools," said Dr. David Resnick, acting executive vice president of the Jewish Education Society of North America. "However, day schools in communities have found ways to receive those remedial services in a way which preserves the First Amendment distinction between church and state."

#### Two Programs Ruled Unconstitutional

The Court yesterday ruled as unconstitutional a program in Grand Rapids, Michigan which sends public school teachers into parochial schools during the school day to teach remedial math and reading, art, music and physical education. It also sends teachers after school to offer gymnastics, home economics, Spanish and drama.

The Court also struck down New York City's use of federal education funds to pay public school teachers who teach in parochial schools in a program aimed at helping low income, educationally deprived children. An official of the National Jewish Commission on Law and Public Affairs said yesterday the Court's decisions would have a devastating effect on children attending Jewish religious schools.

The American Jewish Committee, which joined with the National Council of Churches and a Baptist group against the Grand Rapids program, hailed the court's decision. But the AJ Committee did not involve itself in the New York programs, which falls under Title I of the Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

#### Not Business Of Government

According to Sam Rabinove, director of the AJ Committee, it is not the "proper business of government to subsidize schools whose chief role is to propagate their own faith." He also indicated support for the Jewish community to aid in funding of Jewish remedial education programs.

Acting director of the American Jewish Congress' legal division, Louis Waldman, said "we feel that once the religious community becomes dependent on public subsidies it creates problems for the state." The AJ Congress, Waldman continued, is very concerned with a strong and healthy Jewish educational system and environment, but maintains that it should be separated from that of the public school system and public funding.

Ruti Teitel, assistant director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith's legal affairs department, said that public school teachers going into a parochial school is "not a healthy religious environment nor the proper use of public funds." But she pointed out that the court's rulings yesterday do not prohibit the use of public funds to be used for the purposes of remedial instruction for students who attend private and parochial schools.

**RABIN WARNS SHIITE TERRORISM POSES THREAT FOR ISRAEL, BUT ALSO OTHER TARGETS ABROAD; PUTS BLAME ON SYRIA**  
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, July 2 (JTA) -- Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin warned today that the rise of Shiite Mithlak terrorism poses serious security problems for Israel but also threatens non-Israeli targets abroad.

He blamed recent Shiite terrorism in Lebanon on Syria which, he maintained, is the dominant factor in Lebanon and controlled the various organizations and militias active there. Syrian President Hafez Assad has been hailed by the Reagan Administration for his role in the release of 39 American hostages held by Shiites in Beirut for 17 days.

Rabin spoke at the opening of a three-day conference on international terrorism and how to combat it, organized by the Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies (JCSS) of Tel Aviv University. It is attended by 62 academic experts and defense officials from several Western countries and 100 Israeli counterparts.

#### Shiite Problem More Serious Than Palestinians

Rabin said that while the Palestinians constitute Israel's most immediate terrorist threat, Shiite terrorism presents a new and potentially even more serious problem. He said that in 21 years of dealing with terrorist activities, he had never come across terrorists prepared to die in suicide missions. He noted that for many Shiite terrorists, their mission was not fulfilled unless it ended in the suicide of the perpetrator.

If this kamikaze attitude is extended to targets abroad, it will create an entirely new kind of threat, Rabin said. He listed these as hijackings and the seizure of Americans or other non-Israelis as hostages whose lives would be spared only if Israel made concessions that were unacceptable. He predicted that terrorists would strike abroad because security measures taken by Israel made it difficult if not impossible to hit Israeli targets.

Rabin said he thought yesterday's terrorist bombing in Madrid was the work of Shiite extremists. One woman was killed and 27 persons were injured when a bomb exploded outside the British Airways office in the Spanish capital. The same building houses the offices of TWA, the American air carrier whose Flight 847 was hijacked by Shiite extremists on June 14, leading to the hostage crisis in Beirut.

Rabin confirmed that with the American hostages safely on their way home, arrangements have been made to release 300 of the 750 Shiites held prisoner in the Atlit detention camp. He said the remainder would be released in the near future provided that the security situation in south Lebanon remains more or less stable.

Rabin repeated Israel's explanation that it planned to free the 300 Shiites long before the hostage crisis but delayed because of an incident in south Lebanon involving its ally, the South Lebanon Army, and the hijack of TWA Flight 847 shortly afterwards.

The hijackers demanded that Israel free all of the original 766 Shiite prisoners who were transferred to Atlit on April 2 from the Ansar detention camp in south Lebanon. Had Israel surrendered to the hijackers' demands, it would have laid itself open to further terrorist activities, hijackings and hostage-takings, Rabin said.

#### Veiled Condemnation Of Lebanon War

Observers at the conference saw in some of Rabin's remarks a veiled condemnation of Israel's war in Lebanon which began in June, 1982 under his predecessor, then Defense Minister Ariel Sharon.

What the invasion of Lebanon three years ago accomplished, Rabin said was to encourage Shiite terrorism which became much more dangerous than the terrorism of the Palestine Liberation Organization the invasion was supposed to root out. "If the Shiites really set themselves against Israel at home and abroad, Israel will really have a problem," the Defense Minister said.

The three-day conference will split into small groups for intensive discussions of such subjects as Islamic terrorism; Jewish terrorism; nationalist or ideological terrorism in Europe and the U.S.; combating terrorism; terrorism in Latin America; and the Soviet connection and Arab connection with terrorists.

#### CORRECTION

Only one of the four TWA hijack victims separated from the others because of their "Jewish sounding" names is in fact Jewish. He is Richard Herzberg, 33, of Norfolk, Va. The JTA Daily News Bulletin of July 2 reported erroneously that Michael Brown, 27, of North Miami Beach, Fla., was among the four. Brown is Jewish but was not separated. Robert Brown of Stow, Mass., who is not Jewish, was separated.

#### 2 JEWS HONORED IN CANADA

By Ben Kayfetz

TORONTO, July 2 (JTA) -- Morris Saltzman, described as the senior statesman of the Vancouver Jewish community, and Phyllis Lambert, who for many years has been active in architectural heritage preservation projects in Montreal, were among the 67 persons named Members of the Order of Canada in Canada Day honor lists.

Saltzman, of Vancouver, is a businessman who took over the professional management of the Jewish Community Council and the Canadian Jewish Congress offices and was responsible for developing considerably closer liaison with ethnic and religious groups in British Columbia.

Lambert, of Montreal, is a daughter of the late Samuel Bronfman, and has for years been actively engaged in the preservation of the architectural heritage of Montreal and has devoted herself to improving the esthetic standards of Canadian architecture.

\*\*\*

**REMINDER:** There will be no Daily News Bulletin dated July 4, a postal holiday.

## 2 ISRAELI SCHOLARS EXPRESS FEAR CLIMATE IS BEING CREATED THAT ENDANGERS DEMOCRACY IN ISRAEL

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, July 2 (JTA) — Fear for the future of democracy in Israel was expressed by two academicians this week. Dr. Arik Carmon resigned from the chairmanship of the Committee on Education for Democracy because, in his words, the climate created by the statements and attitudes of some government leaders, heads of the religious establishment and nationalistic elements made his task impossible.

Similar views were voiced by Prof. Asher Arian of Tel Aviv University's faculty of social sciences, in his inaugural address on assuming the faculty's Romulo Betancourt Chair in political science. Arian said that while Israel's democratic record is impressive, the survival of democracy here is not a foregone conclusion.

There is no "grass roots democratic basis" for Israel's political parties he said, describing them as "oligarchies led by relatively stable elite groups" which are not always in touch with the population.

He complained that Israel has failed to adjust to the new political realities created by the 1967 Six-Day War and did not pay sufficient attention to the question of civil rights for Israel's minorities. The national debate over the future of the West Bank and Gaza Strip is foundering on the issues of land and settlement, he said.

### Urges Ending 'Fascination With Land'

"The time has come to abandon the fascination with land and to concentrate on the real stuff of democracy — namely freedom and equality. The greatest challenge Israeli democracy faces is to provide an answer to the question of the future role of the non-Jews under its control," Arian said.

Carmon, an author who was appointed to head the Committee on Education for Democracy by the Ministry of Education, wrote in an article in Davar last week that his leaving that post should be a warning that democracy in Israel was endangered.

Referring to alleged members of a Jewish terrorist underground on trial for acts of violence against Arab civilians on the West Bank, Carmon said "The demand voiced by ministers and Knesset members to release the Jewish terror defendants, the violence by Jewish lawbreakers which has accompanied this demand, and the silence of political, spiritual and social leaders in the light of this violence have created the conditions for an anti-democratic climate which is beginning to prevail in Israel."

### Teachers Not Receiving More Support

That climate, he said, makes the Education Ministry's mission to educate toward a democratic way of life impossible. A teacher seeking to mold his pupils and educate them toward accepting moral responsibility requires broad support from government and spiritual leaders which the teacher is not getting.

"If the Deputy Premier (Yitzhak Shamir) damages one of the rules of procedure in a democratic regime and if he is joined in this — with violent overtones — by members of the legislative branch and political leaders, thereby providing indirect and sometimes direct support for trampling the democratic way of life under foot, and even worse, if no clear and unequivocal voice is raised against this, then a norm of undermining the foundations of democracy begins to emerge," Carmon said.

He added, "These are times when Tehiya, Likud and National Religious Party Knesset members, together with other public figures, are giving forceful expression to the fact that in their view, when their positions clash with the rules of the democratic game, they prefer the former. These are times when tolerance and other views are on the wane among Israel's rabbis if these views differ from their own extreme truth and when tolerance is being replaced by violence, currently verbal but incorporating terrorism."

Arian said in his address that another major challenge to Israel's democracy was the "deep social and cultural cleavage that exists between religious and secular Jews." He said that the "ethnic division of Israel, while acute, is likely to resolve itself in the long run or re-emerge in the more familiar guise of social class conflict. The religious cleavage, in contrast, is likely to persist," he said.

### ARGENTINE JEWRY SHRINKING RAPIDLY

NEW YORK, July 2 (JTA) — The Jewish population of Argentina may decline by as much as 48 percent, to 137,000, by the year 2000 if infertility, assimilation and emigration continue at their present high rates, according to the 1985 American Jewish Year Book published by the American Jewish Committee.

The Jewish community in the rest of Latin America may shrink at a rate of 25 percent by the next century, according to U.O. Schmeltz and Sergio DellaPergola, authors of "The Demography of Latin American Jewry," published in the Year Book. The present Jewish population of Latin America is 464,700. Half live in Argentina, one fifth in Brazil.

Schmeltz and DellaPergola suggested that the population of Latin American Jewry has been sloping downward for some time. "Between 1910 and 1945, the birth rate fell by 50 percent," they wrote, adding that today the community is failing to reproduce itself, below zero population growth. In 1960 the fertility rate was 2.2 but was dropping faster than that of Jews in the U.S., according to the authors.

### Intermarriage Cited As Major Reason

Intermarriage, the authors emphasize, has taken the biggest toll on the size of the Latin American Jewish community. Schmeltz and DellaPergola conservatively estimate the intermarriage rate at 40 percent, submitting that the figure is "probably higher," perhaps the highest of any Jewish community in the world. They stress that when Latin American Jews marry out of their faith, they almost always sever ties with the organized Jewish community.

Emigration has long been a factor in the region's Jewish population drop, the authors explained. When the State of Israel was created, more Jews began leaving Argentina than entered. The net emigration loss then, in the early 50s, was one percent. By the early 70s, the net emigration loss was 12 percent annually, with the bulk of emigrants resettling in Israel, the remainder in the United States.

During periods of civil strife, so common to the region, the emigration of Jews rises. Jews who had business ties with Anastasio Somoza left Nicaragua when the dictator fell from power in 1979. Jews fled El Salvador for the U.S. when violence flared there. An estimated 1,500 to 5,000 Jews expatriated from Mexico when President Jose Lopez Portillo y Panchao nationalized that nation's banks.