CABINET POSTPONES UNTIL NEXT WEEK DEBATE ON IMPLEMENTING DEATH PENALTY

JERUSALEM, July 29 (JTA) — The Cabinet today decided to postpone until next week's debate on the implementation of capital punishment and deportation of terrorist murderers as two government ministers each outlined tougher anti-terrorist plans.

The Cabinet said in a communique following its meeting today that while it deferred discussion on the issue, the government did decide it would step up security against terrorist attacks. The communique also said Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin had been appointed to head a ministerial committee to study the legality of tougher measures.

The government has come under increased pressure to discuss the implementation of capital punishment following last week's murder of two school teachers from the town of Afula. The two bodies were discovered stuffed into a cave on the Gilboa Hills last Friday and over the weekend three West Bank Arab youths were arrested in connection with the murders.

The murders are the latest in a number of cases involving the disappearance of individuals and couples whose bodies were later found, apparently killed by terrorists. A public opinion poll published yesterday in Haaretz showed some 70.5 percent of 1,200 people interviewed supported capital punishment for terrorists while 20 percent indicated opposition to it.

A Split In The Cabinet

The Cabinet is reportedly split on implementing the death penalty which is on the statute books but has not been used against terrorists. Likud ministers are said to favor the death penalty while the Labor ministers favor automatic deportation of Arabs found guilty of terrorist acts — to reduce the number of PLO supporters in Israeli prisons who can be used as bargaining chips in hijack demands.

The practice of deporting Arab terrorists and political leaders was stopped as a general rule in 1979 by then Defense Minister Ezer Weizman, but there were some exceptions including the deportation of two Arab mayors from the West Bank and the recent deportation of a former security prisoner from the Gaza Strip.

Arens, Sharon Issue Separate Proposals

Following today's Cabinet session, two former Defense Ministers, Moshe Arens and Ariel Sharon, issued their separate proposals to deal with security in the administered territories.

Arens, a Minister Without Portfolio, proposed in a five-point plan the implementation of mandatory death sentences for brutal murders and the deportation of those who incite violence in the territories. He also recommended that Palestinian refugee camps on the West Bank harboring alleged stone throwers be relocated to isolated areas near Jericho.

The Cabinet next week is also scheduled to discuss ways and means to defend the Arab population against actions by Jewish extremists. The Cabinet, which usually meets on Sundays, did not meet yesterday because of Tisha B'Av.

Sharon, meanwhile, urged the government to attack Palestinian terrorist headquarters in Jordan, and to tell the United States and King Hussein of Jordan that Israel will not enter into peace negotiations while terrorists are based in Jordan.

Sharon, the Industry and Trade Minister, also said he would deport or re-arrest the some 600 terrorists released last May into Israel and the occupied territories as part of the prisoner exchange deal which allowed for the release of three Israeli Defense Force soldiers captured in the Lebanon war.

REAGAN ADMINISTRATION SATISFIED WITH RESULTS OF WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, July 29 (JTA) — The Reagan Administration expressed its satisfaction today with the United Nations End of the Decade Women's Conference which concluded in Nairobi, Kenya last Friday by unanimously adopting a forward-looking strategies documents for women worldwide to the year 2000.

"With adoption of the forward-looking strategies we achieved our major goal for Nairobi, a goal which eluded us at women's conferences in Mexico City in 1975 and Copenhagen in 1980," State Department deputy spokesman Charles Redman said. He said the U.S. delegation, headed by President Reagan's daughter, Maureen Reagan, did "a good job." While Redman did not elaborate, he was apparently referring to the U.S. votes against the final documents in Mexico City and Copenhagen because they contained anti-Zionist statements. Although there was much anti-Zionism, anti-Israel rhetoric in Nairobi, the final document did not contain a specific attack on Zionism, allowing the U.S. to vote for it. (See full story in July 29 Bulletin.)

Redman said the Nairobi document was a "hopeful achievement for the advancement of the status of women throughout the world." He said that by keeping the "focus on women's issues to a large degree," which was the basic U.S. aim in Nairobi, the final document would be a "blueprint" for international women issues for the rest of the century.

CABINET BEGINS DISCUSSION ON TREASURY PROPOSAL TO DISMISS SOME 5,000 CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEES

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, July 29 (JTA) — The Cabinet today began to discuss Treasury proposals for the dismissal of some 5,000 civil service employees, part of an overall plan to make Israel's civil service more efficient.

The discussion took place amid reports that the government's new economic policy was showing signs of success. Inflation was reported to be slowing down and the balance of payments deficit was likely to improve in the next few months, according to some economic analysts.

A senior government committee supervising the implementation of the new economic policy also heard reports yesterday that Israeli foreign currency held overseas was returning to Israel.
The Treasury proposals to slash some 5,000 civil service jobs would come on top of already approved plans to dismiss some 9,000 civil servants— which have not yet been implemented, and which the government is facing difficulties carrying through.

Some Of The Ideas Raised

Among the ideas raised in the proposal is the return to Israel of some 10 percent of the government’s emissaries overseas, and the dismissal of some 500 chauffeurs of senior government officials and Israel Defense Force officers.

Economic experts said that unless the government succeeded in implementing the dismissals, the entire economic plan was in danger. The employees, for their part, intend to fight the proposed dismissals.

Eliahu Reif, secretary of the Clerks Organization, said the dismissals lists prepared by the various ministries were worthless. What counted, he contended, was only the agreements between the workers and the employers.

He insisted that the work agreements can only be changed by negotiations. One of the proposals currently under discussion is the introduction of a five-day work week, as an alternative to mass dismissals.

KOHL DEFENDS HIS DECISION TO INVITE REAGAN TO VISIT BITBURG CEMETERY

WASHINGTON, July 29 (JTA) — West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, in an interview published here, defended his decision to have President Reagan visit the military cemetery at Bitburg last May, saying, "I did it exactly as I did it ... It was bitterly needed. I think there was no generalizized outcry in the United States. There was an outcry from a group of people which influenced public opinion." He did not identify the group. But it was an apparent reference to Jewish organizations which criticized the trip.

Kohl added in the interview published yesterday in The Washington Post's "Outlook" section that "I told my fellow countrymen that we Germans would have to bear the whole burden of German history. I said we would have to accept all those shameful crimes committed by the Nazis because this is part of our history. As a Christian and a German, I can ask the victims of that persecution and their relatives to forgive. And I can repeat that we have not forgotten what happened. But I think we can say we also learned a lesson from history."

In the interview, with Lally Weymouth, a journalist whose work is syndicated by The Los Angeles Times, Kohl also defended his government’s decision to sell arms to Arab countries.

"We have to take into account two points. After the terrible things we have gone through under the Nazi regime, we have now friendly relations with Israel. We must cultivate them. We also have good relations with the Arab world, and I think the moderate Arab world is of the greatest importance for the future of the world."

ISRAEL FORMALLY THANKS UJA FOR WORK IN OPERATION MOSES

NEW YORK, July 29 (JTA) — In a special gesture, the government of Israel has officially thanked "the officers and staff of United Jewish Appeal of America" for "successful completion of the Operation Moses campaign" that has raised $62.5 million.

The gesture came in the form of a plaque presented to UJA national chairman Alex Grass and UJA president Stanley Horowitz at a recent meeting here of the UJA national officers. It was presented by Minister Eliyakim Rubinstein-Migdal, Deputy Chief of Missions in Israel's Embassy in Washington, and it was issued on instructions from Vice Premier and Foreign Affairs Minister Yitzhak Shamir, representing the government.

Although high Israeli officials have often thanked UJA leaders and others in Jewish life for their contributions to Israel, the presentation of a tangible symbol at a formal gathering is rare. It recognizes the enormous achievement of UJA in exceeding an ambitious goal of raising $60 million from Thanksgiving Day 1984 to March 31, 1985, to provide funds to aid the initial absorption in Israel of thousands of Ethiopian Jews.

Additional Pledges Continue

UJA officials have reported that $52.4 million of the pledges have been paid, and that payment — and additional pledges — are still being made every day. They also report that other UJA fundraising continues to be strong despite the contributions to Operation Moses, and that the 1985 Regular Campaign is up to $567 million, a card-for-card increase of 12.3 percent and a dollar gain of $63 million over the 1984 Regular Campaign.

The plaque read, "Presented to the Officers and Staff of the United Jewish Appeal of America in recognition of their distinguished community leadership and illustrious example of the highest order of fraternity in the successful completion of the Operation Moses campaign." It was signed by Shamir who had requested UJA to seek to raise $60 million in four months — which was tantamount to requesting one of the most ambitious fund-raising campaigns in a limited time period.

Rubinstein-Migdal, in presenting the plaque said, "I express the deep, heartfelt appreciation of the people of Israel for your special effort on behalf of Jewish fraternity of the highest degree, in the framework of Operation Moses. We are grateful to you. We are proud of you."

Grass responded, "In a larger sense, this award belongs to the thousands of American Jews across the country, organized into communities and federations, who have done their share to help our brothers and sisters from Ethiopia begin to realize their age-old dream, their redemption in Israel. And it is also the people of Israel, who have heroically made possible and welcomed this aliyah in pressing economic times, who are deserving of recognition."

ISRAEL BRELOW DEAD AT 79

NEW YORK, July 29 (JTA) — Funeral services will be held here Thursday for Israel Breslow, president of the Jewish Forward Association-WEVD and former president of the Workmen's Circle, the major Jewish fraternal-cultural organization. He died yesterday of heart disease. He was 79 years old.

Breslow retired from the labor movement in 1975 after 17 years of service as a vice president of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU). Born near Kiev, Russia, he emigrated via Canada to the United States in 1922 and became active in the garment industry as a worker. He eventually rose in the union ranks to become an official and in 1976 he was a United States delegate from the ILGWU to labor conferences in this country and abroad.
Breslow took part in the founding, along with the late David Dubinsky, who was the longtime ILGWU president, of the Jewish Labor Committee. He also helped found the Liberal Party of New York with which he broke after the ILGWU left the Liberal Party.

Breslow served on the board of YIVO, was a member of the Aaran Foundation, and was active in the Jewish Socialist Farband, Social-Democrats U.S.A., and the League for Industrial Democracy until the time of his death.

JEWS URGED TO CALL FOR U.S.
DIVESTITUTE IN THE SOVIET UNION
By Susan Bimbbaum

NEW YORK, July 29 (JTA) -- Rabbi Avraham Weiss, national chairman of the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry (SSSJ), has called upon Jews and Jewish organizations to make the same demands for divestiture concerning any United States interests in the Soviet Union as they have been making for South Africa.

Speaking yesterday at the SSSJ's annual Tisha B'Av prayer service, held one block from the Soviet Mission to the United Nations in Manhattan, Weiss emphasized strong approval for divestiture in South Africa while scaring those who would neglect to exert similar pressure upon the Soviet Union to end its repression of Jews.

"All power to those who seek to end racism in South Africa," he stressed, adding immediately that "asking for divestiture in South Africa without calling for an equal demand for divestiture from the Soviet Union is a double standard."

Campaign To Begin Shortly

Weiss was using the occasion of the day of fasting and prayer to introduce a campaign that the SSSJ will begin in a few months for divestiture of government funds in companies that deal with the Soviet Union.

According to Glenn Richter, SSSJ national co-ordinator, the organization has found recently that New York and other states are moving toward divestiture in corporations that deal with South Africa, and is asking for similar action regarding investments in the Soviet Union.

Richter said he has a list of 200-300 companies that dealt in the 1970's with the USSR. Although there are fewer today, in part resulting from the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979, many firms today still have hefty investments in the Soviet Union, he said. Richter cited such giants as Occidental Petroleum and PepsiCola, which have huge interests there. The SSSJ, said Richter, is asking that these corporations "not make profit over the backs of those who are oppressed."

Richter also referred to a story in last week's Wall Street Journal on the First Chicago Bank. The article, entitled London, stated that "this was the first time since 1979 that a U.S. bank has publicly lead manager for syndicated credit to the USSR."

Avital Shcharansky Is Going To Helsinki

Also speaking at yesterday's service was Avital Shcharansky, wife of Soviet Prisoner of Conscience Anatoly Shcharansky, who left that evening for Helsinki, Finland, to attend the commemoration ceremonies of the 10th anniversary of the signing of the Helsinki accords. The Final Act, or "third basket" of the accords, speaks of guarantees of human rights, including the right to emigrate, and the preservation of human culture and human contacts. In 1975, the U.S. and Soviet Union were among 35 signatories to the accords.

Avital Shcharansky, who was in the U.S., to speak to members of Congress and the Reagan Administration on the eve of the concord, will try to speak in Helsinki with Secretary of State George Shultz as well as Foreign Ministers of other nations on behalf of her husband and all Soviet Jewish refuseniks. It is also believed that she will try to speak to newly-appointed Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, who recently succeeded Andrei Gromyko in that post. The ceremonies begin tomorrow.

Shcharansky said she plans to demonstrate in Helsinki, to bring attention to "the case of the 400,000 Jews being 'held' in the USSR," referring to those Jews who have already applied for exit visas and are still waiting.

Wars Against Weakening Jackson Amendment

Weiss, addressing the approximately 400 persons gathered for the service, said, "There is an attempt by well-meaning Jews to weaken the Jackson-Vanik Amendment ... those who like to throw candy to the Soviet Union ... I issue a warning towards those who are involved in negotiations ... that they dare not do so."

The Amendment to the 1974 Foreign Trade Act pegs emigration from Communist nations to their status as Most Favored Nation (MFN) for trade agreements and large government loans.

"Until the Soviets are true to their obligation to human rights, when 400,000 Jews are free and Anatoly is in Jerusalem, then we can talk trade," said Weiss. "Don't talk," he continued. "Scream, shout." Giving in on the Jackson-Vanik Amendment without the assurance of quid pro quo "would be absolute bankruptcy," he declared. Also addressing the group, which included men in telfisim and tiftilln reading from the Torah and chanting psalms and laments, was Israel Friedman, who had been in Moscow during Shcharansky's trial.

PHYLIS TISHMAN DEAD AT 65

NEW ORLEANS, July 29 (JTA) -- Phylis Tishman, a supporter for nearly 40 years of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York and other charitable causes, died last Wednesday night at Montefiore Hospital and Medical Center. She was 65 years old and lived in Manhattan and Scarsdale.

Tishman was a life trustee and former vice president of the Federation board. She was an organizer and associate chairman of the Federation Thrift Shops. From 1971 to 1973, she was board chairman of the Women's Organization, a fund-raising arm of Federation before it joined its fund drive with that of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York. In 1961, she helped organize the Dimitri Mitropoulos International Music Competition, an annual fund-raising event for Federation which ran for 12 years.

Tishman was a major contributor to the Women's Campaign for UJA-Federation and the immediate past chairman of its Major Gifts Division. She was a member of the Women's Campaign Cabinet and Gotham Division. She was on the Board of Directors of the Council of Jewish Federations.
CATHOLIC AND JEWISH LEADERS HOLD CONSULTATION ON NEW VATICAN CATHOLIC-JEWISH RELATIONS GUIDELINES

By Ben Gallab

NEW YORK, July 29 (JTA) — Catholic and Jewish leaders engaged in Jewish-Christian relations held an all-day consultation here last week to discuss a new set of Vatican guidelines on Catholic Jewish relations which had been sharply criticized by five Jewish organizations comprising the International Jewish Committee on Interreligious Consultations (IJIC) when the guidelines were issued last month.

The Jewish and Catholic leaders at the meeting here, which was convened by the American Jewish Committee, agreed on the need for more ecumenical dialogue to clarify the issues, the AJCommittee reported in disclosing that the meeting was held as a follow-up to the criticism of the guidelines by IJIC.

The guidelines, "Notes on the Correct Way to Present the Jews and Judaism in Preaching and Catechesis in the Roman Catholic Church," were issued on June 26 after three years of preparation.

Although the Notes were greeted with some praise as an effort to overcome ignorance of the history and traditions of Judaism, IJIC said the Notes were a regression from the historic "Nostra Aetate" (Our Times) which emerged from Vatican Council II in 1964 and the 1974 "Guidelines and Suggestions for the Application of the Declaration Nostra Aetate."

Basis For Criticism Of Guidelines

IJIC said in a statement last month that the Notes failed to acknowledge the religious significance of Israel and referred only briefly and superficially to the Holocaust. IJIC member-agencies are the AJCommittee, Israel Interfaith Committee, World Jewish Congress, Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, and the Synagogue Council of America, representing the congregational and rabbinical agencies of American Reform, Conservative and Orthodox Judaism.

The IJIC criticism warned that the "Notes may undermine the gains we have achieved through dialogue, joint study and joint action in recent years."

The statement asserted that the Notes were "totally inadequate in providing Catholics with sufficient guidelines on how to teach, preach and understand the Holocaust and the creation of Israel, the two events which have decisively shaped the way Jews define themselves."

Another IJIC criticism was that the Notes were published "without prior consultation with the Jewish community."

The agreement for further dialogue came after the all-day consultation held last Wednesday which the AJCommittee said was the first such meeting of Catholics and Jews since publication of the Notes.

Meeting "to evaluate the document in both its positive and negative aspects," the participants agreed that "strengthened by 20 years of progress in our relationships, we have learned that we can face genuine differences and still retain a spirit of trust and mutual respect."

Joint Statement Issued

The participants agreed, in a joint statement, that "had there been prior consultations with the Jewish community along the lines of these clarifications, much of the criticism which concerns us now might have been avoided."

The statement said that the Notes should have been read in conjunction with more positive statements about Jews and Judaism made by Vatican officials, including Pope John Paul II.

The participants said they agreed that the Notes "do not preclude and indeed appear to us to invite further scholarly exploration of the basic relationship between the Church and the Jewish people."

A spokesman for the AJCommittee told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he did not know when future meetings will be held.

Rabbi A. James Rudin, the AJCommittee's director of interreligious affairs, said that Jews continued to have reservations about the Notes but that he hoped they could be resolved in future discussions.

Concerning the IJIC criticism that the State of Israel and the Holocaust were inadequately handled in the Notes, the joint statement said the participants committed themselves to "continued dialogue between our two communities."

They agreed that Catholics, as well as Jews, needed to grapple with the significance of the Holocaust for Christians as well as for Jews.

Signers Of The Joint Statement

The joint statement was signed by Rev. Charles Angell, director, CentroPro Unione, Rome; Judith Bank, associate director, interreligious affairs, AJC; Prof. Thomas Bird, chairman, Department of Slavic Studies, Queens College; Dr. Eugene Fisher, executive secretary, Secretariat for Catholic-Jewish Relations, National Conference of Catholic Bishops; Rabbi David Gordis, executive vice president, AJC; Br. William Martyn, executive secretary, Ecumenical Commission, Archdiocese of New York.

Also, Rabbi Alan Mittelman, program specialist, interreligious affairs, AJC; Rev. John Pawlikowski, professor of social ethics, Catholic Theological Union, Chicago; Zachariah Shustor, consultant, international relations, AJC; Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, director, international relations, AJC; and Rabbi Rudin.

DAVID ZUCKER DEAD AT 79

NEW YORK, July 29 (JTA) — Funeral services will be held in Temple Israel in Great Neck, N.Y., tomorrow for David Zucker, a long-time leader in the Zionist and Conservative movements, who died in North Miami Beach yesterday at the age of 79.

Zucker, who had resided in both Great Neck and North Miami Beach, was the immediate past president of the World Council of Synagogues, the international organization representing Conservative synagogues. He was long an active member of the United Synagogue of America, the umbrella organization for Conservative congregations in the United States and Canada.

A founding member of the Zionist Organization of America, he was a member of the Board of Overseers of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, the academic and rabbinical school of the Conservative movement, and a past officer of the Temple Israel in Great Neck.

Thirteen years ago, Zucker, a retired businessman, established a Center for Conservative Judaism in Israel and created an endowment to support its operation.