

**PERES EXPRESSES ISRAEL'S GRIEF  
OVER AIR DISASTER WHICH CLAIMED  
THE LIVES OF 248 U.S. SERVICEMEN**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 15 (JTA)—Premier Shimon Peres cabled President Reagan to express Israel's grief over the air disaster in Gander, Newfoundland, in which 248 American servicemen died last Thursday. "We are shocked and deeply grieved at the terrible tragedy -- the young men who lost their lives in the plane crash were serving the cause of maintaining world peace," Peres wrote.

The dead men had served with the 101st Airborne Division stationed in the Sinai as part of the Multinational Force and Observers which polices the peninsula under the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt. The chartered plane, an Arrow Air DC-8, in which the men were returning home left Wednesday from Cairo. Eight crew members were also killed.

After refueling in West Germany the plane crossed the Atlantic and landed in Gander for another fuel stop. After an apparently routine takeoff Thursday morning, the plane fell to the ground tail first a half mile from the runway and exploded in flames. Two terrorist organizations claimed responsibility for the disaster, but investigators discounted the claims as grand standing.

In his cable to Reagan last Thursday night, Peres also said that "I would like to convey the sincere condolences of the government and people of Israel to the American people and the bereaved families."

Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin sent a similar message to U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger. Israeli Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Moshe Levy cabled the chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff and the commander of the Sinai Multinational Force.

**TERRORIST SABOTAGE RULED OUT  
IN ISRAELI BARRACKS BLAZE**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 15 (JTA) -- Terrorist sabotage has been ruled out as the cause of a fire that swept a military barracks in the West Bank last Monday, killing eight soldiers and injuring seven, according to an interim report by a special team investigating the blaze.

But the exact cause has not yet been established, Brig. Gen. Avram Mitznar, head of the investigating team, said in a report submitted to Chief of Staff Gen. Moshe Levy. The interim report established that the eight soldiers died of asphyxiation by carbon monoxide fumes and were probably dead or unconscious by the time the flames reached them.

The fumes were generated by combustible materials used to build the pre-fabricated barracks which were purchased from the American firm which built the Negev airfields several years ago.

Levy said today the army would apply the lessons from the tragedy, including a limitation on the number of soldiers housed in such pre-fabricated barracks.

**U.S. LIMITING EXCHANGE OF  
INTELLIGENCE WITH ISRAEL**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 (JTA) -- The Reagan Administration is limiting its exchange of intelligence with Israel in the wake of the case of Jonathan Pollard.

State Department deputy spokesman Charles Redman conceded this last Friday, noting that the step was taken in the "immediate aftermath" of the arrest of Pollard, a Navy civilian counterintelligence expert, who has been charged with selling secret United States information to Israel.

Redman said that pending a "clear assessment" of how much U.S. security had been compromised, "some discreet limitations were placed on selected intelligence exchanges with Israel." He added, "this was a logical and prudent step."

Redman's statement came after Richard Armitage, Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs, revealed the restriction on sharing intelligence in an interview in Friday's New York Times.

"We're waiting the results of the Pollard fact-finding investigation," Armitage was quoted as saying. A group of State and Justice Department officials, headed by Abraham Sofaer, the State Department legal advisor, are in Israel to investigate the Pollard case.

Israel and the U.S. have a long record of sharing intelligence information which has been of benefit to both countries.

**No Apparent Link Of Two Cases**

Meanwhile, Redman said there was no "apparent" link of the Pollard case with the raid by U.S. Customs agents on Thursday on three companies in a case involving the alleged transfer of hi-tech equipment to Israel.

A customs spokesman identified the companies as Napco, Terryville, Conn., which allegedly obtained plans for manufacturing 120 mm. tank cannon barrels; Abernathy Lead Construction Co., Eddystone, Pa., which manufactures the barrels for tanks, and the G and B Packing Co., Bayonne, N.J., which allegedly shipped them to Israel.

Customs said that the companies were searched but did not indicate whether anything was seized. No arrests have been made and the investigation is continuing, according to the Customs spokesman.

**RABIN SURPRISED AT NEW U.S. PROBE**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 15 (JTA) -- Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin informed the Cabinet today that he met Friday with U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering about an investigation by American authorities of a Connecticut company suspected of exporting classified U.S. military technology to Israel without the required export licenses from the Defense and Commerce departments.

Rabin said he asked the envoy for an explanation of the affair involving Napco, Inc., of Terryville, Conn. He told the Ministers that Israel signed an agreement with Napco in December 1984. The deal was approved by the Defense Department and U.S. assistance funds

were used to acquire the technology. Israel acted legally and openly, Rabin declared and expressed surprise at what he saw as an attempt to besmirch Israel's name.

The matter came to media attention in the U.S. when an official of the U.S. Attorney's office in Albany, N.Y. announced last Thursday that U.S. Customs agents had raided Napco and two other companies that were its sub-contractors in search of evidence of the possible illegal export of the technology to Israel.

It was described as a secret chrome-plating process used in the manufacture of cannon barrels for the American M-1 tank. The process is said to make the cannon superior to any in the world.

#### A Possible Form Of Pressure

Cabinet Secretary Yossi Beilin refused to comment today on suggestions that the Napco affair might have been instigated to put pressure on Israel in connection with the current investigation of the Jonathan Pollard spy case.

A team of U.S. State Department officials and FBI agents arrived in Israel last week and reportedly are questioning Israeli diplomats and others said to have had contacts with Pollard. The investigation is being conducted in tightest secrecy. The American officials have refused to speak to reporters since their arrival.

The reports of the allegedly illegal technology transfer did not appear to disturb Israeli officials when the story broke in the American media last week. But on Friday, Menachem Meron, Director General of the Defense Ministry, told a press conference in Tel Aviv that Israel's dealings with Napco were completely open and legal.

He said the U.S. approved and financed the purchase from Napco "within the framework of the aid for military requirements and the permit has been duly given."

Meron said Napco had contracted with Israel to build an installation here for the chrome coating process. For security reasons he would not say where it is to be located or when it will be completed.

#### 3-YEAR-OLD CHILD BEING FLOWN TO THE U.S. FOR LIVER TRANSPLANT OPERATION

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 15 (JTA) -- The Health Ministry will fly three-year-old Meir Zorea of Migdal Haemek to the U.S. today for an urgently needed liver transplant operation which hopefully, will save his life.

Health Minister Mordechai Gur ordered the Ministry last Friday to arrange the flight and pay all expenses after the child's family was unable to raise \$150,000 needed for the trip and surgery. Gur acted under mounting public and political pressure from Knesset members when doctors warned that the gravely ill youngster could die any day.

Leading Israeli doctors insist the liver transplant can be successfully performed in Israel but is not, because of budgetary constraints on the Health Ministry. The child was born with a malfunctioning liver and has spent most of his three years in hospitals. Recently his condition worsened. Fund-raising efforts by family and friends produced \$25,000 but the public campaign picked up momentum when the case was widely publicized last Thursday.

Several Knesset members said they would personally collect public donations and hand them over to the Health Ministry. Histadrut's sick-fund, Kupat Holim, said it would cover half the cost of the boy's mother's flight to the U.S. and would contribute \$160 per day toward the medical treatment.

Dr. Amram Ayalon of the Hadassah Medical Center here said the operation could be performed in Jerusalem if a donor was available and certain devices were purchased, but it would take three months to prepare teams for the surgery. He said that the techniques of procedure have already been learned by Hadassah medical staff and the operation, if performed here, would cost about a tenth of what it costs in the U.S.

Meanwhile, the Health Ministry has given a commitment to an American hospital, reportedly one in Pittsburgh, to cover all costs for Meir Zorea.

#### ZIONIST LEADER SAYS RESPONSE BY SOME U.S. JEWISH LEADERS TO POLLARD CASE SHOWS AN 'INFERIORITY COMPLEX'

HOLLYWOOD, Fla., Dec. 15 (JTA) -- An American Zionist leader charged tonight that the response of "some Jewish spokesmen" to the Jonathan Pollard spy case revealed a "real inferiority complex" among American Jews.

Jacques Torczyner, president of the World Union of General Zionists, made the statement in an address at the opening session of the Union's third Pan American convention here. Some 200 leaders of the Zionist Organization of America and affiliated organizations in Canada and Latin America have been joined by Israeli political figures, including Knesset members and Leon Dulzin, chairman of the World Zionist Organization and Jewish Agency Executives.

In his address, Torczyner asked, "Why must American Jews repeatedly affirm our patriotism, thus raising the spectre of dual loyalty? Did any Chinese Americans take to the media when a citizen of Chinese origin was arrested recently for espionage? The existence of Israel and the vindication of the Zionist dream should have put an end to the groveling of American Jewish leaders." Torczyner did not identify the persons he had in mind.

Alleck Resnick, president of the ZOA -- the U.S. affiliate of the World Union -- said the ZOA was drawing plans for a nationwide program to block proposed U.S. arms sales to Jordan and Saudi Arabia, to alert the country to the "new rapprochement" between Syria and Jordan and to analyze the fallout from the Pollard affair.

He warned that "many people in this country would like to keep the spy story burning before the American public. Anti-Israel abuse, whose effect, if not intent, is to delegitimize Israel, can only give satisfaction to the enemies of Israel," he said.

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JERUSALEM (JTA) -- A group of Palestinians who said they wanted to persuade Yasir Arafat to accept United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, were refused permission by the West Bank military government to go to Jordan Monday to meet the PLO chief. Several Knesset members were critical of the refusal, among them Abba Eban, chairman of the Foreign Affairs and Security Committee. One of the group, Hanna Seniora, editor of the East Jerusalem Arabic newspaper Al-Fajr, charged that the Israeli authorities "do not want us to make progress toward peace."

# FIVE JAILED RABBIS URGE MEDIA TO NOT FOCUS ON THEM PERSONALLY BUT ON PLIGHT OF SOVIET JEWS

By Judith Kohn

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 (JTA) — Five rabbis arrested at a Soviet Jewry demonstration last May began a 15-day prison sentence last Friday urging members of the media to focus not on them personally, but on the conditions of Jews in the Soviet Union which the planned arrest and imprisonment were meant to dramatize.

"This act will be worthwhile only if it will generate awareness and action on behalf of Prisoners of Conscience languishing in Soviet prisons," the rabbis said in a statement read to reporters by Gary Fink, another rabbi arrested last May.

Like most of the 23 demonstrators convicted last Wednesday of violating a District of Columbia statute against demonstrating within 500 feet of an Embassy, Fink accepted the original suspended 15-day prison sentence, together with six months unsupervised probation and a \$50 fine.

But the five rabbis who began their prison term last Friday rejected the offer of a suspended sentence and probation in order to dramatize the plight of Soviet Jewry.

"This dramatic act, we hope, will focus attention on the harassment and imprisonment of our Soviet brethren whose only crime was to study Bible and practice their religious heritage," said Rabbi David Oler, chairman of the Washington Board of Rabbis' Soviet Jewry Action Committee.

The five rabbis imprisoned were among 22 rabbis and a Lutheran minister—Rev. John Steinbrück—who were arrested outside the Soviet Embassy here in the first of a series of planned arrests sponsored by the Washington Board of Rabbis. Some 132 people in all, including rabbis, ministers, Hebrew teachers, cantors and college students have been arrested in seven such demonstrations here to date.

## Another Group Found Guilty Two Weeks Ago

The first demonstrators to be tried, a group of 21 rabbis, were found guilty two weeks ago of violating the District law banning demonstrations within 500 feet of an Embassy and sentenced to a 15-day suspended jail term, six months probation and a \$50 fine — the same penalty initially handed down to all but one of the 23 whose case was heard last Wednesday.

The exception was Michael Berenbaum, opinion page editor of The Washington Jewish Week, who received a reduced fine of \$10 to cover court costs, after pleading guilty. The five rabbis who began their prison terms were Oler, Harold Bayer, Leonard Cahan, Mark Levine and Bruce Kahn. They reported to the Petersburg Prison in Virginia.

In handing down the sentence, Judge Colleen Kollar Kotelny told the group of five that her initial verdict was made as a way of keeping the rabbis in the community. But in view of their decision to reject the suspended sentence, she said, "You do not wish to remain in the community."

## Selective Prosecution Seen

The rabbis — like the first group of 21 rabbis — expressed distress over the harshness of the initial sentence, especially in light of the prosecution's recommendation that there be no fine or jail sentence. Several protested that the Soviet Jewry demon-

strators were being subjected to selective prosecution at the behest of the Soviet Embassy and observed that none of those arrested in similar demonstrations at the South African Embassy — in which some of the same rabbis have participated — have actually been tried.

But the judge appeared to go beyond what the group of five had effectively invited her to do by rejecting the initial sentence, when she dismissed out of hand a request to consider bail. Henry Asbill, attorney for 22 rabbis and one Lutheran minister, argued that the five should be permitted to postpone serving the sentence after posting bail because there was "a likelihood of reversal" of the verdict on appeal.

## Two Legal Issues

The issues were the "defense of necessity" by which Asbill said the rabbis had the religious and moral imperative to violate the District statute in order to prevent a greater harm from being done, and the constitutionality of the statute itself. In addition, Asbill indicated he would press the question of selective prosecution which, he said, characterized the charges against the Soviet Jewry activists.

Asbill, who has taken on the case without fee, had attempted to show that the rabbis were forced by moral and religious imperative to violate the statute in order to prevent further harm to six Soviet Hebrew teachers and Jewish activists who they said they had taken upon themselves to defend.

Their action, he maintained, was directly linked to the fate of those six — including Prisoner of Conscience Anatoly Shcharansky — and all legal alternatives had been exhausted. However, the judge maintained that there was insufficient basis to permit the case to be defended on the basis of "necessity."

## Another Group To Be Tried Wednesday

Another group of demonstrators will be tried on December 18. Two of those arrested last May failed to appear at the court hearing last Wednesday, and the judge issued a warrant for their arrest. The two, one of whom was said to be in Arkansas and the other in Israel, would probably appear in court when they return and will be handed the usual sentence, an attorney familiar with the case said.

## BRONFMAN CONFERS WITH POLISH LEADER

PARIS, Dec. 15 (JTA) — World Jewish Congress president Edgar Bronfman held a three-hour meeting last Thursday with Polish President Wojciech Jaruzelski with whom he reviewed all outstanding problems of mutual interest. Bronfman remained in Poland over the weekend to visit the site of the former Auschwitz concentration camp.

Polish officials, queried by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency by telephone, said that the meeting had been friendly and sincere. They said that only subjects of mutual interest had been discussed. Thursday's meeting was the second of this year. Bronfman and Jaruzelski met in September in New York where the Polish leader attended the United Nations General Assembly.

Bronfman had earlier last week attended a two-day business meeting in Moscow during which he conferred with a variety of Soviet personalities.

# U.S. FLAG THAT DRAPED KLINGHOFFER CASKET WILL RESIDE PERMANENTLY AT THE JEWISH CHAPEL AT WEST POINT

NEW YORK, Dec. 15 (JTA) -- The American flag that draped the casket of Leon Klinghoffer, murdered by terrorists in the Achille Lauro hijacking, will reside permanently in the Jewish Chapel at the United States Military Academy at West Point. In ceremonies last week, Klinghoffer's widow, Marilyn, presented the flag to representatives of the West Point Jewish Chapel.

Accepting the flag were Herbert Ames, president, West Point Jewish Chapel Fund; Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Marc Abramowitz, the first military Jewish Chaplain assigned to West Point; Maj. Gen. Jerome Waldor, USAF (Res.), an alumnus of West Point, Class of 1950; and Cadet Matthew Kuperstein, member of the Corps of Cadets, Class of 1987.

The Klinghofers, who were married by the late Rabbi Avraham Soltes, who served West Point's Jewish community from 1963 to 1983, were celebrating their 36th wedding anniversary with a cruise on the Achille Lauro.

The West Point Jewish Chapel, completed in the spring of 1984, is the first facility dedicated to serving the Jewish tradition, religion and culture at West Point. The Jewish Chapel's Museum-Gallery, through displays and exhibitions, portrays the contributions of Jews to this nation and its military forces. The Klinghoffer American Flag will be housed in the Museum-Gallery's permanent collection.

## N.J. HITLER BASH ENTREPRENEUR RETURNS TO HIS NATIVE GERMANY

ELIZABETH, N.J., Dec. 15 (JTA) -- Dieter Homburg, who celebrated Hitler's birthday with a party at his tavern, Loni's Pub, every year for the past 10 years, has sold out and returned to his native Germany. His departure was apparently prompted by a sharp decline in business after his Hitler bash on April 21 triggered an angry protest demonstration last May 31 by local Jewish and veterans organizations. Elizabeth has one of the largest Jewish populations in New Jersey.

The protest brought Homburg and his activities unwanted publicity in the media though it did not result in closing the bar. Law enforcement authorities said the parties, though repugnant, violated no local ordinances and were in accordance with the legal exercise of freedom of speech.

The parties, held on the second floor of the tavern, usually drew about 30 guests "from all walks of life," Homburg was quoted as telling the media. They were open to anyone willing to pay \$15 for four hours of food and drink. According to witnesses, at least one guest turned up in a storm trooper uniform last April. The party featured a birthday cake with a swastika.

### Reaction To Homburg's Departure

Alan Shelton, president of the Zionist Association of Kean College in nearby Union, N.J., one of the groups that demonstrated, said he was "overjoyed that Homburg found conditions so difficult that he chose to return to Germany, but the fact that he was able to attract area residents on a yearly basis to pay homage to Hitler is clear evidence Homburg was not alone in his pro-Nazi sentiments."

Homburg always insisted he was not affiliated with any Nazi group. He said he was puzzled by the outrage over what he considered just "a joke" to have "a good time." But the fuhrer's admirer, who was born after the collapse of the Third Reich, said he was "tired" of hearing about the Holocaust.

He gave reporters handouts commending President Reagan for honoring his commitment to place a wreath at the German war cemetery at Bitburg last May where about 50 members of the Waffen SS are buried along with other war dead.

The worldwide protests aroused by Reagan's visit to Bitburg "resulted in the biggest hate campaign against Germans," according to the material handed out by Homburg.

### An Effective Demonstration

The May 31 demonstration was a small one. It drew no more than 30 people, according to the Newark Star Ledger. But it was apparently effective. Elizabeth police who began to monitor the pub reported a sharp fall-off in business.

The sponsors of the May 31 demonstration were, in addition to Shelton's group, the New Jersey Coalition Against Nazis; the Elmore Hebrew Center of Elizabeth; the Second Generation of Metro, N.J. -- an organization of children of Holocaust survivors; the Jewish War Veterans of America; and the New Jewish Agenda of South Orange.

The new owner of the tavern, now known as Rodz's Pub, is Rick Rodriguez whose father Joseph was its manager and a partner of Homburg until three years ago. The German flags have been removed. The pub will continue to serve German food prepared by the same cook. But Hitler's birthday celebrations apparently are a thing of the past.

### RACHEL MARCUS DEAD AT 72

TEL AVIV, Dec. 15 (JTA) -- Rachel Marcus, veteran actress of the Chamber Theater, died of a heart attack on Friday. She was 72. Marcus was the widow of Israeli poet Nathan Alterman, who died 15 years ago. Their daughter, the poet Tirtza Atar, died eight years ago.

Born in Poland, Rachel Marcus studied acting in Vienna and Berlin and came to Palestine shortly after Hitler's rise to power.

She joined the Chamber Theater in Tel Aviv after it was founded, together with a number of other actors who had sought but failed to gain admission of the closely-knit Habimah Theater.

Since retiring from the Chamber Theater, she taught acting in Tel Aviv and gave many one person performances, reciting and presenting Alterman's poems.

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TEL AVIV (JTA) -- The consumer price index rose by 0.5 percent during November -- the lowest monthly cost of living increase in nine years, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced Sunday. The increase was due to higher costs of clothing and footwear, health costs, and house up-keep, including municipal rates, offset by seasonal reductions in the price of fruit and vegetables. Since the start of the latest phase in the new economic plan, annual inflation is now running at 45 percent -- the lowest rate of inflation for some eight years.